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VOL. 3
COVER A
frank mastromauro
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taylor esposito
15 years of INDEPENDENCE
aspen comics for YOU, by US
SHRUGGED 3
#1
OF 6
Volume Three
Starts Here!
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As Theodore Langstrom faced the everyday challenges of school at Maxwell High, he soon realized that his adolescence was only the tip of the iceberg. Theo discovered the voices in his head weren't a figment of his imagination, but rather Ange and Dev, his conscience counterparts from the world of Perspecta, a realm encompassing all of the human emotions experienced on Earth. Along with his friends, Thom and Kiori, Langstrom was quickly pulled into a war between a powerful and villainous Nefarian exile, Ember Silva, and the province of Elysia, their Perspectan counterparts that spilled over into the human world.

Believing they had vanquished Ember and her What-If-Mafia's plan to overthrow Perspecta, Theo returned from summer vacation only to learn that Perspecta was in fact, still in danger. The realm of emotions was under threat from Ember once again, using her monstrous henchman, Slive, in order to demolish the Elysian leadership. However, in Perspecta with the help of all of his allies, Theo was able to tap into his courage power to finally defeat Ember and return everything presumably back to normal...

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DRAWING BY: **ANDRÉ RISSO** & **MAURICIO CAMPETELLA** (pgs 1-3, 15-16)

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ONE AND NONE REALITY

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B — Direct Edition by - Micah Gunnell

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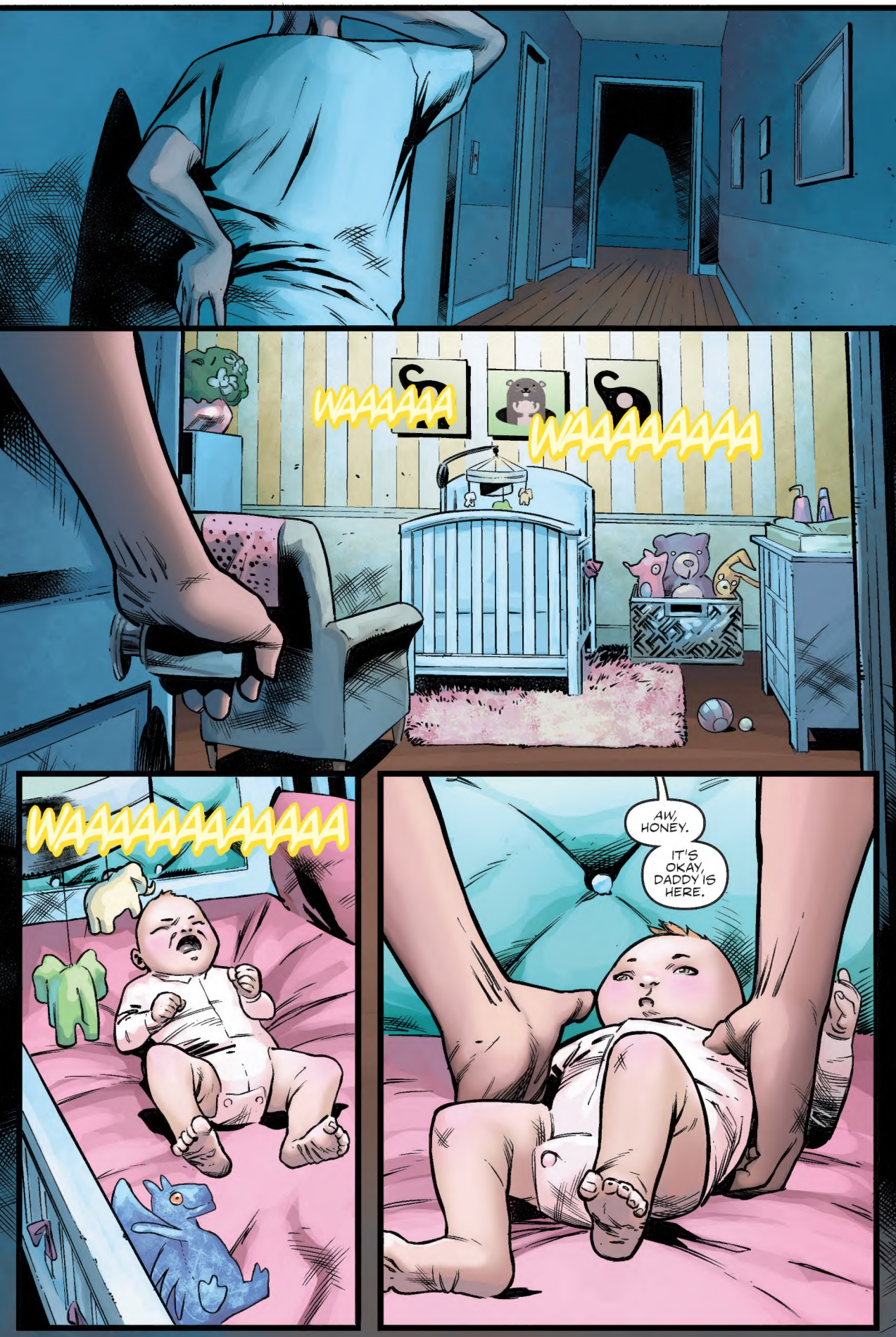
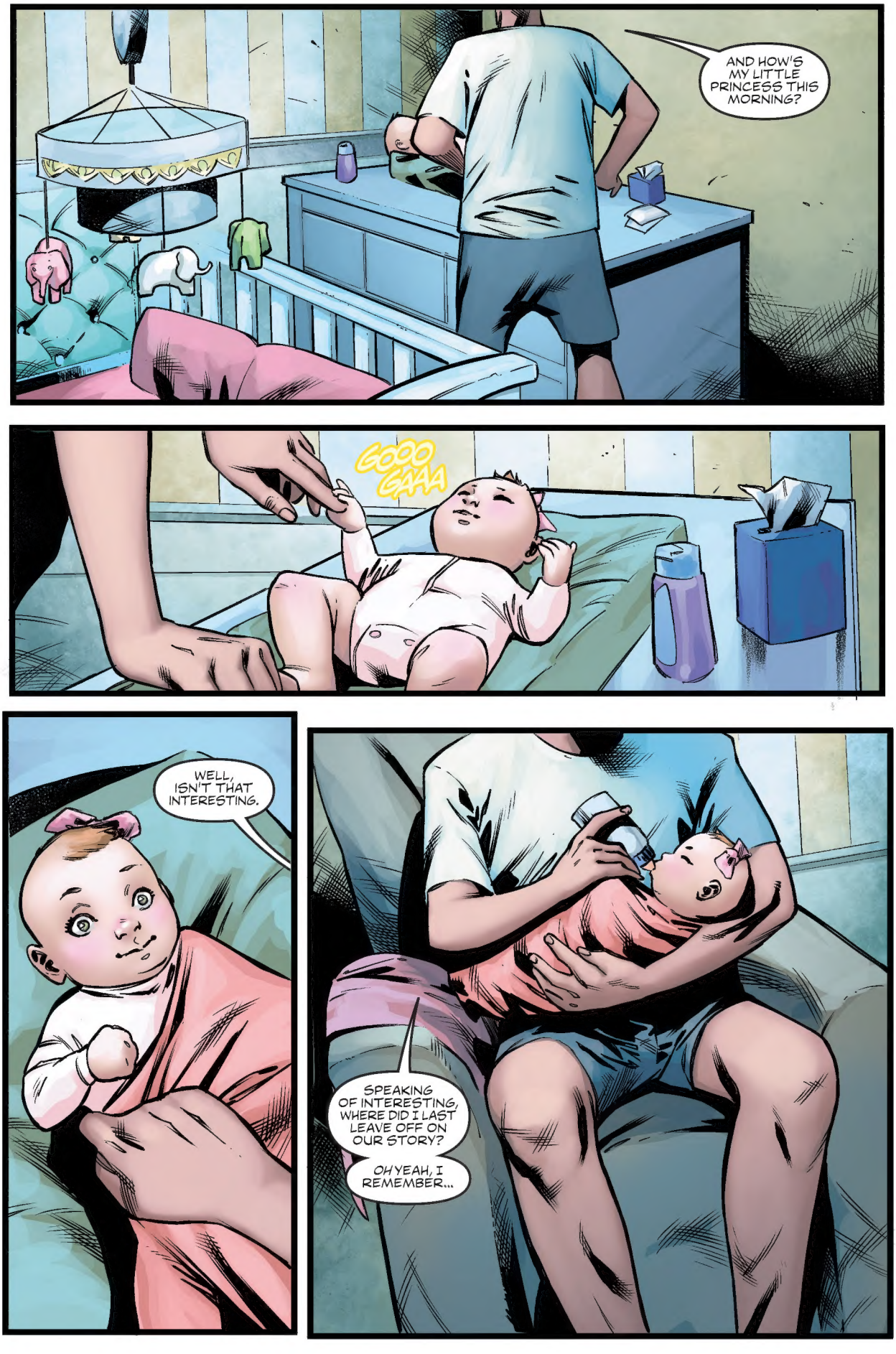
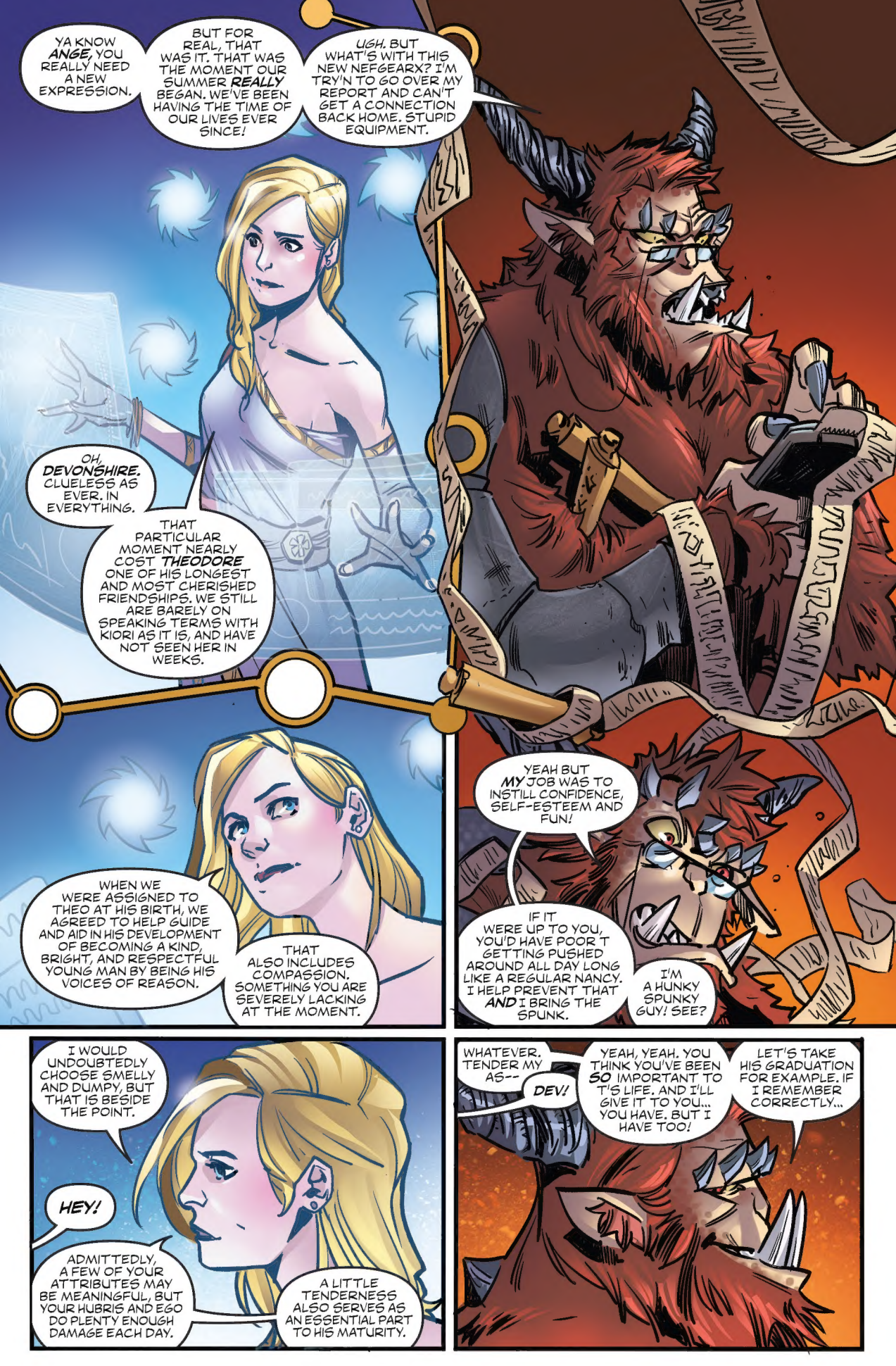
WAAAAAA
WAAAAAAAA
I...
-YAWN-
...GOT HER.
WAAAAAAAAAAAAA

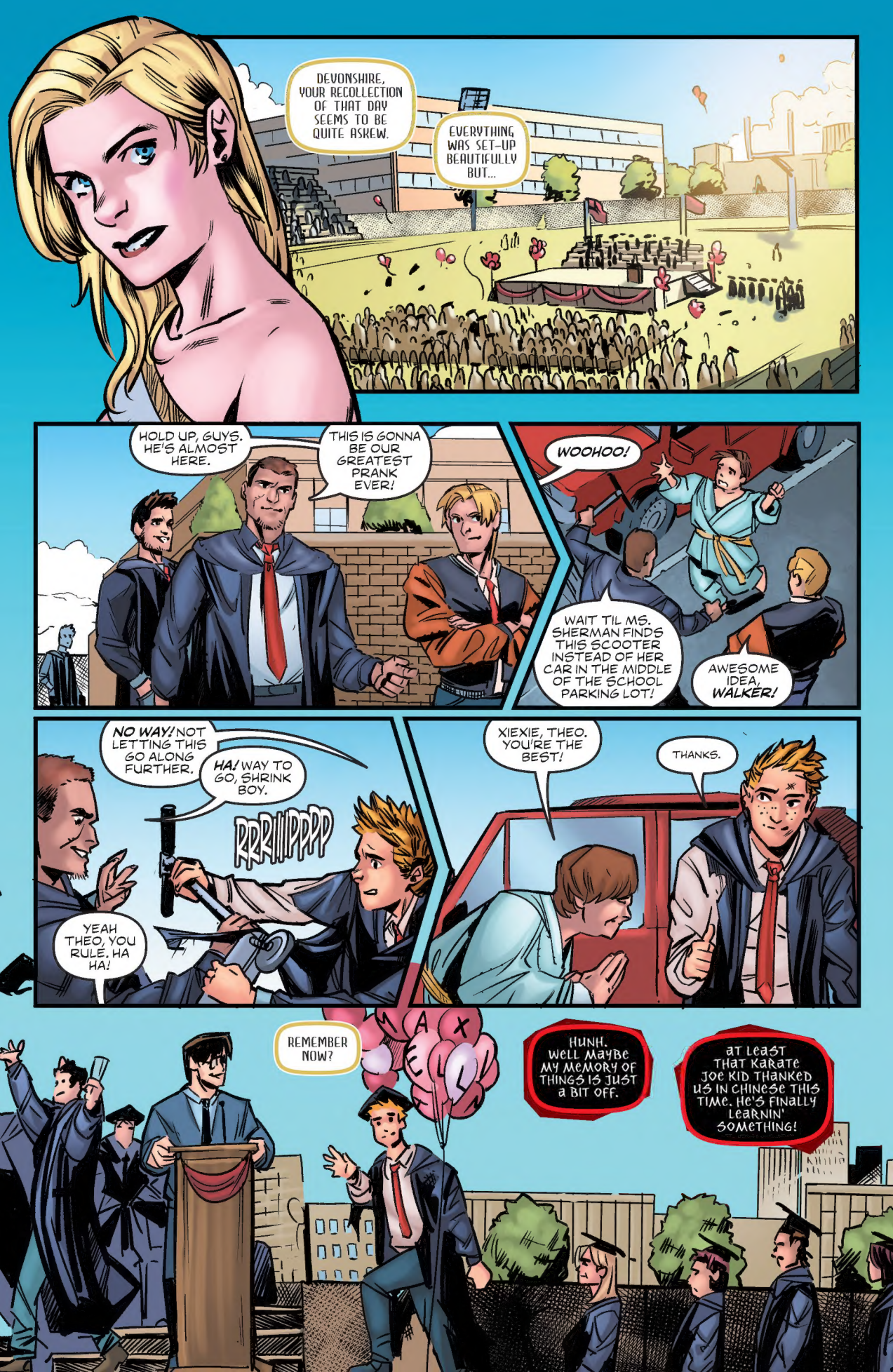

WAAAAAA
WAAAAAAAAA
WAAAAAAAAAAAAA
AW, HONEY.
IT'S OKAY, DADDY IS HERE.


AND HOW'S MY LITTLE PRINCESS THIS MORNING?
GOOO GAAA
WELL, ISN'T THAT INTERESTING.
SPEAKING OF INTERESTING, WHERE DID I LAST LEAVE OFF ON OUR STORY?
OH YEAH, I REMEMBER...

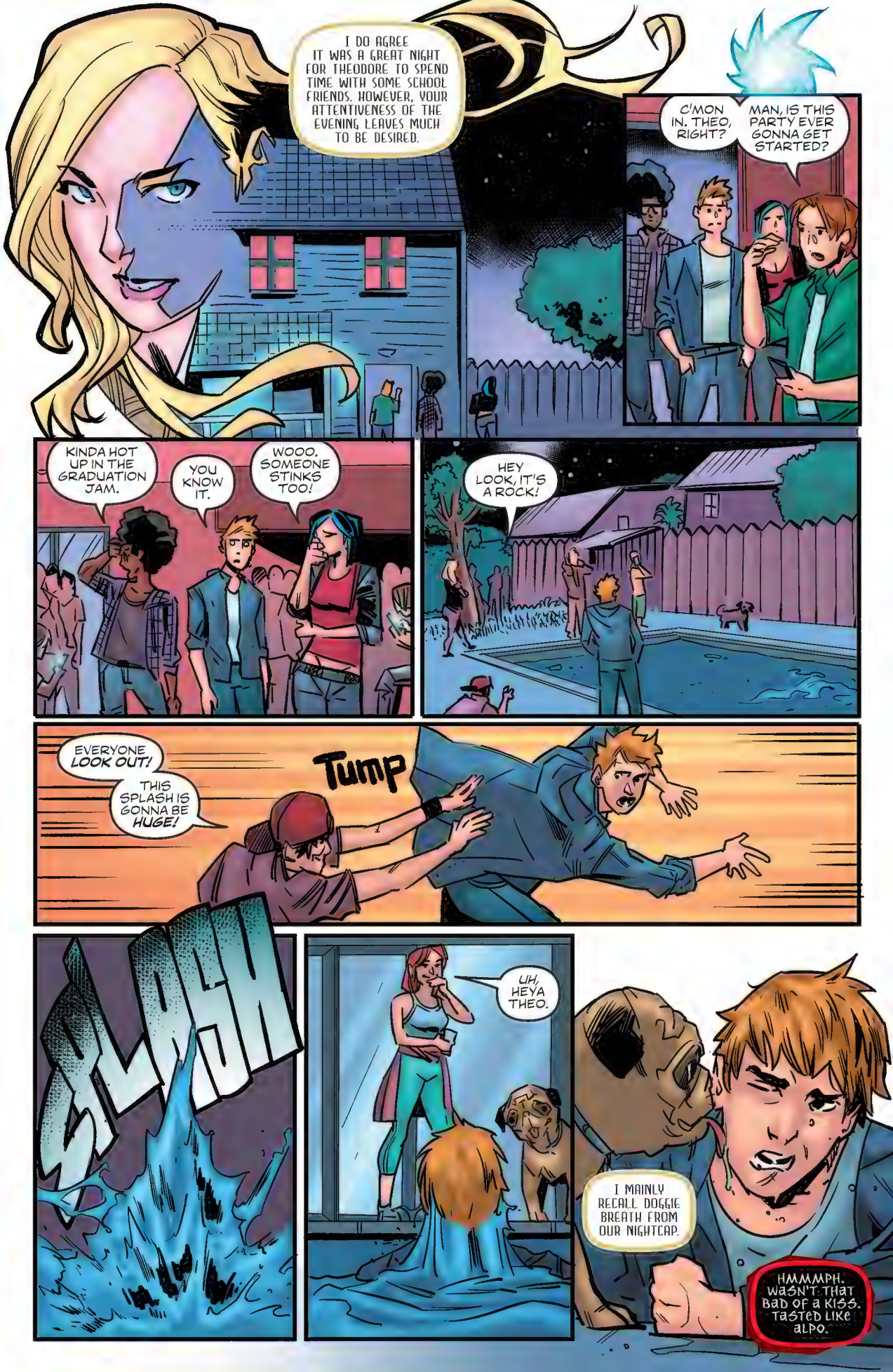
WHOOSH
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU DIDN'T REMEMBER!
KIORI, WAIT!
WE NEED TO GO CHECK ON HER RIGHT AWAY!
WHAT IN THE BUTT JUST HAPPENED?!
KIORI?!
OH, DEAR.

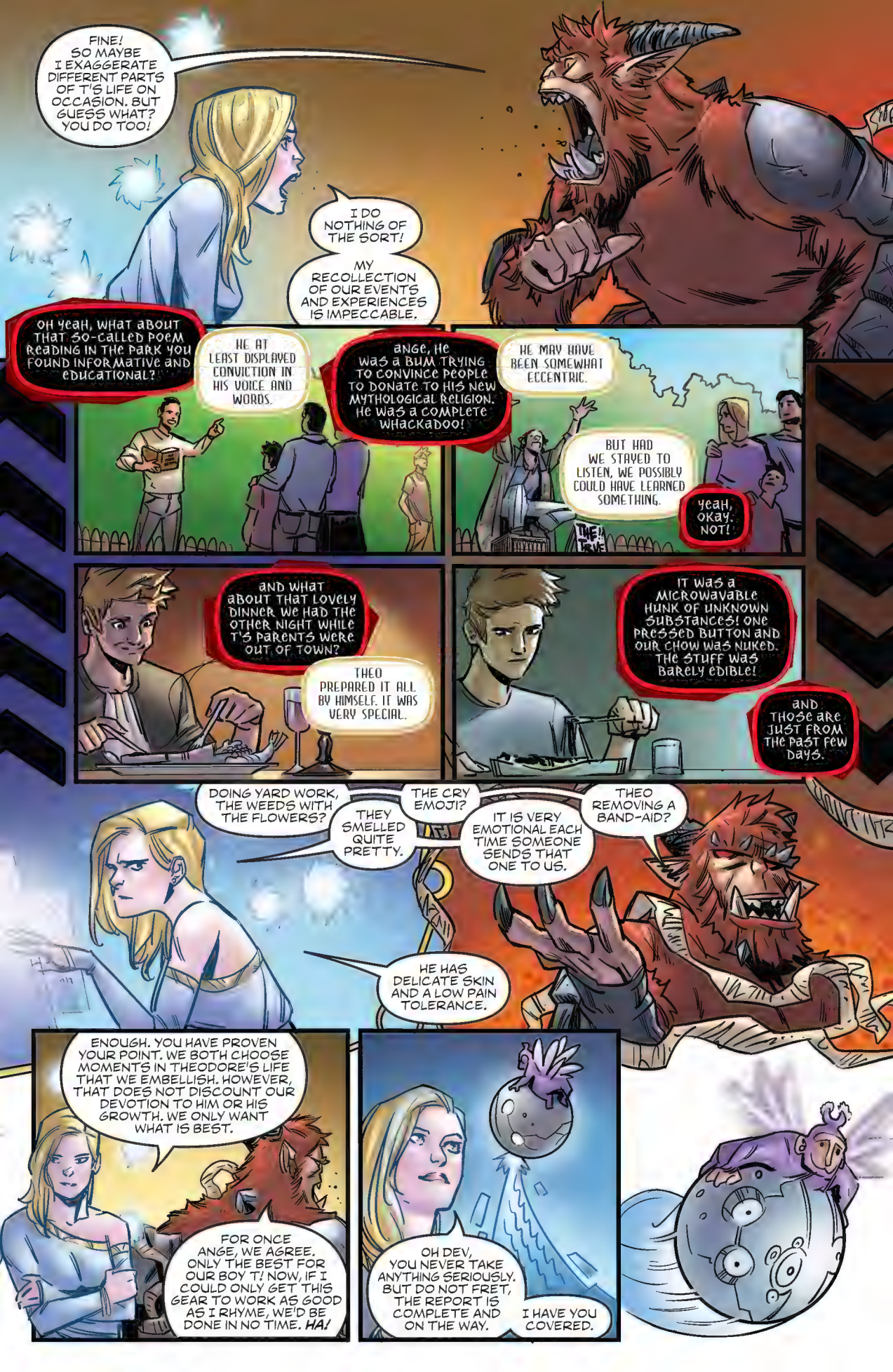

YA KNOW ANGE, YOU REALLY NEED A NEW EXPRESSION.
BUT FOR REAL, THAT WAS IT. THAT WAS THE MOMENT OUR SUMMER REALLY BEGAN. WE'VE BEEN HAVING THE TIME OF OUR LIVES EVER SINCE!
UGH. BUT WHAT'S WITH THIS NEW NEFGEARX? I'M TRY'N TO GO OVER MY REPORT AND CAN'T GET A CONNECTION BACK HOME. STUPID EQUIPMENT.
OH, DEVONSHIRE. CLUELESS AS EVER. IN EVERYTHING.
THAT PARTICULAR MOMENT NEARLY COST THEODORE ONE OF HIS LONGEST AND MOST CHERISHED FRIENDSHIPS. WE STILL ARE BARELY ON SPEAKING TERMS WITH KIORI AS IT IS, AND HAVE NOT SEEN HER IN WEEKS.
WHEN WE WERE ASSIGNED TO THEO AT HIS BIRTH, WE AGREED TO HELP GUIDE AND AID IN HIS DEVELOPMENT OF BECOMING A KIND, BRIGHT, AND RESPECTFUL YOUNG MAN BY BEING HIS VOICES OF REASON.
THAT ALSO INCLUDES COMPASSION. SOMETHING YOU ARE SEVERELY LACKING AT THE MOMENT.
YEAH BUT MY JOB WAS TO INSTILL CONFIDENCE, SELF-ESTEEM AND FUN!
IF IT WERE UP TO YOU, YOU'D HAVE POOR T GETTING PUSHED AROUND ALL DAY LONG LIKE A REGULAR NANCY. I HELP PREVENT THAT AND I BRING THE SPUNK.
I'M A HUNKY SPUNKY GUY! SEE?
I WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY CHOOSE SMELLY AND DUMPY, BUT THAT IS BESIDE THE POINT.
HEY!
ADMITTEDLY, A FEW OF YOUR ATTRIBUTES MAY BE MEANINGFUL, BUT YOUR HUBRIS AND EGO DO PLENTY ENOUGH DAMAGE EACH DAY.
A LITTLE TENDERNESS ALSO SERVES AS AN ESSENTIAL PART TO HIS MATURITY.
WHATEVER. TENDER MY AS--
DEV!
YEAH, YEAH. YOU THINK YOU'VE BEEN SO IMPORTANT TO T'S LIFE. AND I'LL GIVE IT TO YOU... YOU HAVE. BUT I HAVE TOO!
LET'S TAKE HIS GRADUATION FOR EXAMPLE. IF I REMEMBER CORRECTLY...

EVERYTHING WAS SET-UP PERFECTLY.
CONGRATS THEO!
FOR THE GREATEST PRANK EVER!
WAY TO GO GUYS! WAIT TIL MS. SHERMAN FINDS HER CAR IN THE MIDDLE OF THE SCHOOL!
WOOHOO! WE DID IT!
AWESOME IDEA, THEO!
THANKS, FELLAS!
NO WAY! THANK YOU FOR LETTING US TAG ALONG.
YEAH, THEO. YOU RULE!
CLAP WHOO HOO
CLAP WHOO HOO
HOORAY, THEO!
YOU'RE THE BEST!
OH, YEAH! THEO WAS DEFINITELY THE MAN THAT DAY!


DEVONSHIRE, YOUR RECOLLECTION OF THAT DAY SEEMS TO BE QUITE ASKEW.
EVERYTHING WAS SET-UP BEAUTIFULLY BUT...
HOLD UP, GUYS. HE'S ALMOST HERE.
THIS IS GONNA BE OUR GREATEST PRANK EVER!
WOOHOO!
WAIT TIL MS. SHERMAN FINDS THIS SCOOTER INSTEAD OF HER CAR IN THE MIDDLE OF THE SCHOOL PARKING LOT!
AWESOME IDEA, WALKER!
NO WAY! NOT LETTING THIS GO ALONG FURTHER.
HA! WAY TO GO, SHRINK BOY.
RRRIIIPPPP
YEAH THEO, YOU RULE. HA HA!
XIEXIE, THEO. YOU'RE THE BEST!
THANKS.
REMEMBER NOW?
HUNH. WELL MAYBE MY MEMORY OF THINGS IS JUST A BIT OFF.
AT LEAST THAT KARATE JOE KID THANKED US IN CHINESE THIS TIME. HE'S FINALLY LEARNIN' SOMETHING!

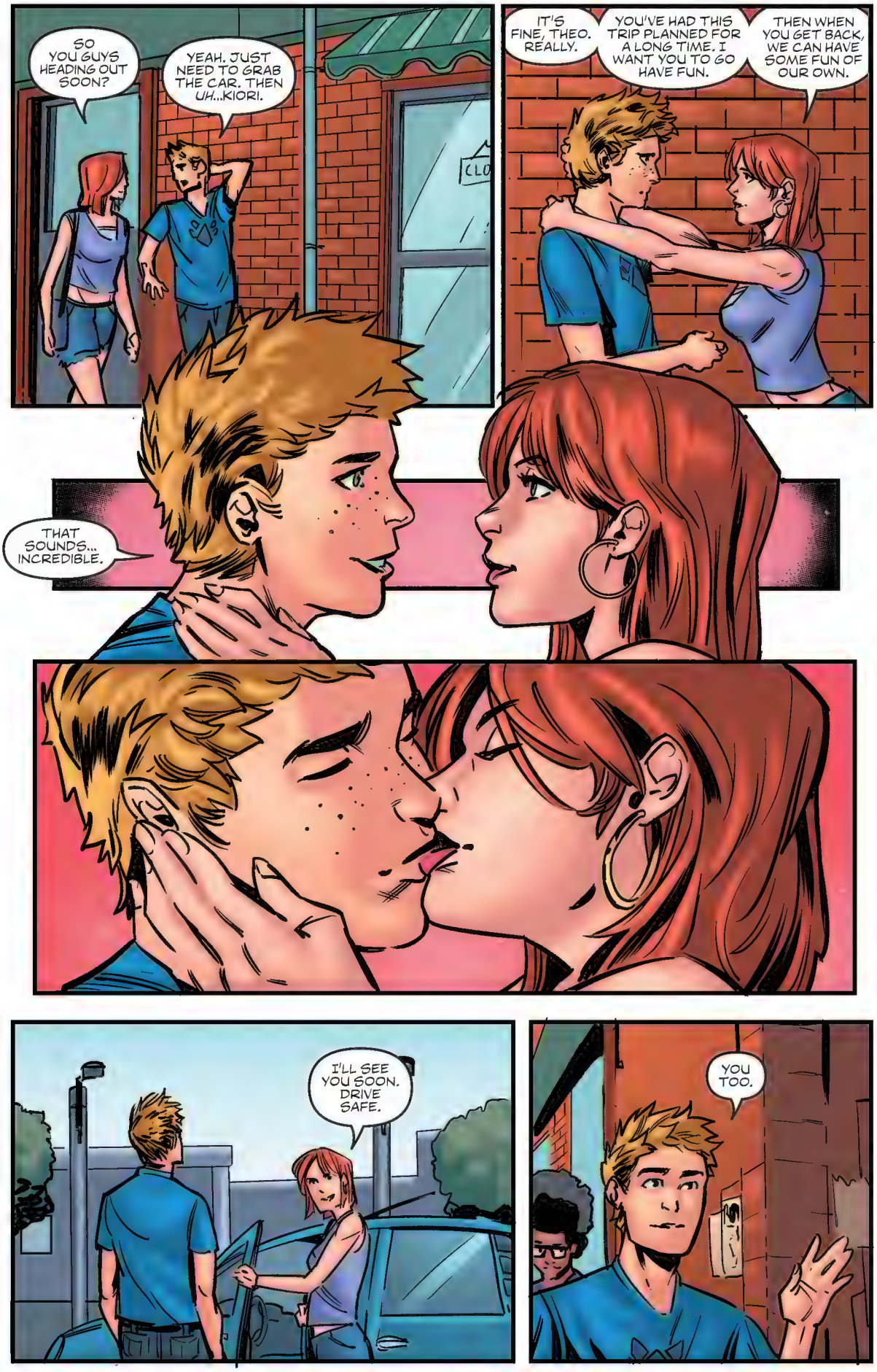
BUT THE GRADUATION BASH WE WENT TO THAT NIGHT WAS OFF THE HOOK!
I'LL NEVER FORGET THE WAY THAT WENT DOWN!
THEO! C'MON IN MAN!
SWEET, WE CAN FINALLY GET THIS PARTY STARTED!
HOTTEST GRADUATION JAM EVER, BRO!
YOU KNOW IT!
WOOO!
YAAAHH!
YESSSSS!
WOOOOOO!
THIS ROCKS!
EVERYONE LOOK!
CHECK IT OUT!
THIS SPLASH IS GONNA BE HUGE!
SPLASH
HEYA, THEO.
AND WE CAPPED OFF THE NIGHT WITH A MEGA SMOOCH FROM CARRIE, ONE OF THE MOST SMOKING BABES AROUND!
WHAT A GREAT NIGHT!


I DO AGREE IT WAS A GREAT NIGHT FOR THEODORE TO SPEND TIME WITH SOME SCHOOL FRIENDS. HOWEVER, YOUR ATTENTIVENESS OF THE EVENING LEAVES MUCH TO BE DESIRED.
C'MON IN. THEO, RIGHT?
MAN, IS THIS PARTY EVER GONNA GET STARTED?
KINDA HOT UP IN THE GRADUATION JAM.
YOU KNOW IT.
WOOO. SOMEONE STINKS TOO!
HEY LOOK, IT'S A ROCK!
EVERYONE LOOK OUT!
THIS SPLASH IS GONNA BE HUGE!
Tump
SPLASH
UH, HEYA THEO.
I MAINLY RECALL DOGGIE BREATH FROM OUR NIGHTCAP.
HMMMPH. WASN'T THAT BAD OF A KISS. TASTED LIKE ALPO.


FINE! SO MAYBE I EXAGGERATE DIFFERENT PARTS OF T'S LIFE ON OCCASION. BUT GUESS WHAT? YOU DO TOO!
I DO NOTHING OF THE SORT!
MY RECOLLECTION OF OUR EVENTS AND EXPERIENCES IS IMPECCABLE.
OH YEAH, WHAT ABOUT THAT SO-CALLED POEM READING IN THE PARK YOU FOUND INFORMATIVE AND EDUCATIONAL?
HE AT LEAST DISPLAYED CONVICTION IN HIS VOICE AND WORDS.
ANGE, HE WAS A BUM TRYING TO CONVINCE PEOPLE TO DONATE TO HIS NEW MYTHOLOGICAL RELIGION. HE WAS A COMPLETE WHACKADOO!
HE MAY HAVE BEEN SOMEWHAT ECCENTRIC.
BUT HAD WE STAYED TO LISTEN, WE POSSIBLY COULD HAVE LEARNED SOMETHING.
YEAH, OKAY. NOT!
AND WHAT ABOUT THAT LOVELY DINNER WE HAD THE OTHER NIGHT WHILE T'S PARENTS WERE OUT OF TOWN?
THEO PREPARED IT ALL BY HIMSELF. IT WAS VERY SPECIAL.
IT WAS A MICROWAVABLE HUNK OF UNKNOWN SUBSTANCES! ONE PRESSED BUTTON AND OUR CHOW WAS NUKED. THE STUFF WAS BARELY EDIBLE!
AND THOSE ARE JUST FROM THE PAST FEW DAYS.
DOING YARD WORK, THE WEEDS WITH THE FLOWERS?
THEY SMELLED QUITE PRETTY.
THE CRY EMOJI?
IT IS VERY EMOTIONAL EACH TIME SOMEONE SENDS THAT ONE TO US.
THEO REMOVING A BAND-AID?
HE HAS DELICATE SKIN AND A LOW PAIN TOLERANCE.
ENOUGH. YOU HAVE PROVEN YOUR POINT. WE BOTH CHOOSE MOMENTS IN THEODORE'S LIFE THAT WE EMBELLISH. HOWEVER, THAT DOES NOT DISCOUNT OUR DEVOTION TO HIM OR HIS GROWTH. WE ONLY WANT WHAT IS BEST.
FOR ONCE ANGE, WE AGREE. ONLY THE BEST FOR OUR BOY T! NOW, IF I COULD ONLY GET THIS GEAR TO WORK AS GOOD AS I RHYME, WE'D BE DONE IN NO TIME. HA!
OH DEV, YOU NEVER TAKE ANYTHING SERIOUSLY. BUT DO NOT FRET, THE REPORT IS COMPLETE AND ON THE WAY.
I HAVE YOU COVERED.

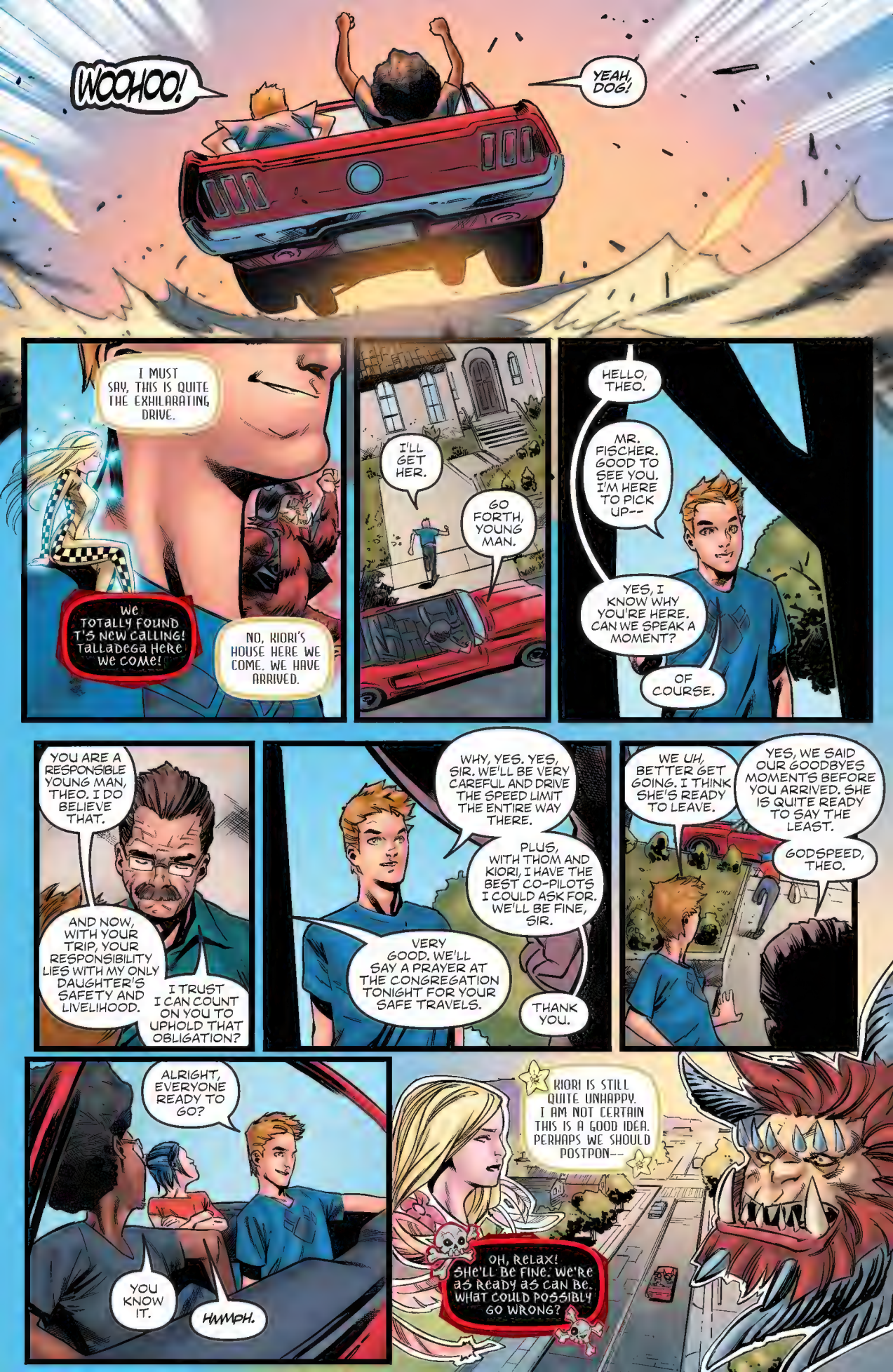
YOU SURE ABOUT THIS, BRO?
SAMMY-D'S
PIZZA - PASTA - SUBS
NO, BUT I THINK SO. I MEAN, WE'VE BEEN FRIENDS FOR YEARS AND WE'VE HAD THIS COLLEGE ORIENTATION TRIP SCHEDULED FOR A WHILE.
BESIDES, I PROMISED I'D TAKE HER.
THAT'S QUITE CHIVALROUS AND ALL, BUT SHE HEARD THAT ONE BEFORE. OUR LASS IS STILL MIGHTY UPSET WITH YOU, T.
I MEAN, THAT SMACK WAS OF EPIC PROPORTIONS.
DON'T REMIND ME. MY CHEEK IS STILL SORE.
BUT IT'S BEEN CLOSE TO A MONTH. SHE CAN'T STILL BE HOT WITH ME...CAN SHE?
ONLY SHE CAN ANSWER THAT ONE MY MAN. BUT SPEAKIN' A HOT.

LOVE
THEO!
HI, THOM.
HOW'S THE PIZZA?
ADEQUATE ENOUGH I'D SAY. YOUR OLD FLAME IS COOKIN' PIES NOW SO WE STILL HAVE TO CHECK TO MAKE SURE THEY AIN'T LOADED.
SO FAR, NO WHAMMIES.
I KEEP TELLING YOU GUYS WE CAN GO TO PEPPERONI'S.
THERE'S NO NEED TO PUSH IT BY COMING HERE.
IT'S OKAY, CARRIE. WE'VE BEEN EATING IN THIS SAME BOOTH FOR YEARS.
WHY RUIN TRADITION?
AND I'D RATHER RISK IT HERE THAN EATIN' AT RONI'S. WHATEVER RICK DISHES OUT, THAT JOINT IS ON A WHOLE 'NOTHER LEVEL.
REALLY, IT'S ALRIGHT. WE'RE NOT IN SCHOOL ANYMORE. WE'RE TRYING OUT THIS WHOLE ADULT THING NOW.
ME AND RICK...WE'RE GOOD.
I KNEW THERE WAS A REASON I LIKED YOU SO MUCH.
AWWWWW. SHE IS SUCH A SWEETHEART.
LET'S HEAR IT FOR OUR BOY, T! ALWAYS SAID YOU WERE A STALLION!


SO YOU GUYS HEADING OUT SOON?
YEAH. JUST NEED TO GRAB THE CAR. THEN UH...KIORI.
IT'S FINE, THEO. REALLY.
YOU'VE HAD THIS TRIP PLANNED FOR A LONG TIME. I WANT YOU TO GO HAVE FUN.
THEN WHEN YOU GET BACK, WE CAN HAVE SOME FUN OF OUR OWN.
THAT SOUNDS... INCREDIBLE.
I'LL SEE YOU SOON. DRIVE SAFE.
YOU TOO.

IT'S PARTY TIME!
FIREBALLS FER EVERYONE!
CHICKA CHICKA, FAKE I.D.
YOUR'A HOT MESS!
I'M GONNA HANG BY THE BAR. PUT OUT DA VIBE.
I'LL JUST HAVE A SPRITZER.
WE'RE GONNA MISS YA, MAN!
TOO MANY...POP... ROCKS.
THERE'S A JUNGLE CAT IN'A RESTROOM!
DEM JUICE BOXES ARE DA BOMB!
YOU ARE GOING TO MISS HIM?
WE CAN NEVER GET AWAY FROM YOU TROUBLE-MAKERS.
ALWAYS APPEARING AT THE WORST POSSIBLE TIME, PUTTING SO MANY ZANY SCENARIOS INTO THEODORE'S MIND. I HAVE NEVER UNDERSTOOD WHY THE ELYSIAN COUNCIL ALLOWS ALL OF YOU TO TRANSFERSCEND SO FREELY.
IT IS VERY UNPLEASANT AND UNBEFITTING TO THEO'S MATURITY.
DEV, THERE IS STILL MUCH TO DO BEFORE OUR TRIP. YOU NEED TO REMOVE THEM. RIGHT NOW!
GEEZ! WHAT A PARTY POOPER. THEY'RE NOT ALWAYS SO BAD. WE'VE HAD SOME GOOD TIMES WITH THE LITTLE FELLAS.
ALRIGHT, ONE LAST TOAST AND I'LL CLEAR 'EM OUT. HIT ME WITH IT GUYS, WE GOTTA GO!
ONE MAFIA SPECIAL COMIN' RIGHT UP!
HASTA LA PASTA, BAE BAE!
GOODBYE, MY LOVE!
GLUUPP GGLUUPP
WHAT A MESS. YOU DO PLAN ON HELPING TO CLEAN UP?
YEAH YEAH. GETTING THESE GUYS OUTTA HERE THEN GRABBING A QUICK NAP. BE BACK SOON!
DEV!
KIDDING! YOU'RE JUST TOO EASY SOMETIMES, ANGE.

WHAT IS THIS?!
IT'S YOUR RENTAL, SIR.
ARE YOU SURE THIS IS OUR CAR? I THOUGHT WE WERE GETTING SOMETHING A BIT MORE... COMPACT?
YOU ARE THEODORE LANGSTROM, CORRECT?
YEAH...
THEN THIS IS YOUR CAR.
SINCE YOU'RE NOT OF AGE TO RENT THIS VEHICLE YOURSELF, YOUR PARENTS CAME BY TO SCHEDULE IT.
THEY LEFT A NOTE ON THE RENTAL AGREEMENT WHEN THEY SIGNED.
"WE THOUGHT YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS MIGHT LIKE TO ENJOY THE 'WEATHER' ON YOUR DRIVE SO WE PURCHASED AN UPGRADE."
"WE'RE SO PROUD OF YOU, THEO. THE WORLD AWAITS. LOVE MOM AND DAD."
HOW NIFTY.
Rent a car
SOME NICE FOLKS YOU GOT THERE, KID. THEY EVEN BOUGHT THE ADDITIONAL INSURANCE FOR THIS BEAUTY.
NOW DON'T YOU GOING DRIVING OFF ANY CLIFFS.


WOOHOO!
YEAH, DOG!
I MUST SAY, THIS IS QUITE THE EXHILARATING DRIVE.
We totally found T's new calling! Talladega here we come!
NO, KIORI'S HOUSE HERE WE COME. WE HAVE ARRIVED.
I'LL GET HER.
GO FORTH, YOUNG MAN.
HELLO, THEO.
MR. FISCHER. GOOD TO SEE YOU. I'M HERE TO PICK UP--
YES, I KNOW WHY YOU'RE HERE. CAN WE SPEAK A MOMENT?
OF COURSE.
YOU ARE A RESPONSIBLE YOUNG MAN, THEO. I DO BELIEVE THAT.
AND NOW, WITH YOUR TRIP, YOUR RESPONSIBILITY LIES WITH MY ONLY DAUGHTER'S SAFETY AND LIVELIHOOD.
I TRUST I CAN COUNT ON YOU TO UPHOLD THAT OBLIGATION?
WHY, YES. YES, SIR. WE'LL BE VERY CAREFUL AND DRIVE THE SPEED LIMIT THE ENTIRE WAY THERE.
PLUS, WITH THOM AND KIORI, I HAVE THE BEST CO-PILOTS I COULD ASK FOR. WE'LL BE FINE, SIR.
VERY GOOD. WE'LL SAY A PRAYER AT THE CONGREGATION TONIGHT FOR YOUR SAFE TRAVELS.
THANK YOU.
WE UH, BETTER GET GOING. I THINK SHE'S READY TO LEAVE.
YES, WE SAID OUR GOODBYES MOMENTS BEFORE YOU ARRIVED. SHE IS QUITE READY TO SAY THE LEAST.
GODSPEED, THEO.
ALRIGHT, EVERYONE READY TO GO?
YOU KNOW IT.
HMMPH.
KIORI IS STILL QUITE UNHAPPY. I AM NOT CERTAIN THIS IS A GOOD IDEA. PERHAPS WE SHOULD POSTPON--
OH, Relax! She'll be fine. We're as ready as can be. What could possibly go wrong?

PERSPECTA.
CITIZENS OF PERSPECTA. PLEASE CALM DOWN AND LISTEN.
WE HAVE HEARD YOUR PLEAS AND ARE WORKING TIRELESSLY TO INSTITUTE CHANGE.
OUR ESTEEMED COUNCIL HAS BEEN IN CONTINUAL CONFERENCE DISCUSSING WAYS TO BETTER SAFEGUARD YOU AND YOUR LOVED ONES.
BUT EVEN THOUGH OUR DEFENSES ARE STRONG, NEW ADVERSARIES HAVE STRAINED TO CHALLENGE US. ONES THAT HAVE ATTEMPTED TO DECIMATE OUR CITIES AND DESTROY OUR WAY OF LIFE.
THIS CANNOT CONTINUE ANY LONGER.
FROM THE TREACHEROUS THREAT OF NOBLE BOHAVEN TO THE FIENDISHNESS OF EMBER SILVA AND HER MONSTROUS HENCHMAN, WE HAVE FOUGHT HARD TO PERSEVERE.
EVEN THE VILE CREATURES OF FEAR THAT PLAGUED OUR LANDS WERE EVENTUALLY OVER COME AND ABOLISHED.
NOT A FIGHTER!
TERROR!
WE HAVE STOOD STRONG AND SURVIVED.

BOTH OF OUR KIND, ELYSIANS AND NEFARIANS, BANDED TOGETHER TO--
YOU TALK ALL BIG BUT IT WAS THE BOY THEO THAT SAVED US!
YEAH! TOO MUCH TALKIN'! IT WASN'T YOU, SOFTNESS!
OUR LEADERSHIP IS INADEQUATE!
WE WANT BETTER SECURITY FOR OUR PEOPLE! WE NEED TO BE ABLE TO PROTECT OURSELVES!
NOT MY PERSPECTA!
PROTECT & RES
I STAND THE OTHER GUY
I'D RATHER BE CAFE DEAD
YOUR SAFETY AND SECURITY IS OUR MAIN PRIORITY. THE COUNCIL IS--
THE COUNCIL IS FAILING US!
A NEFARIAN SHOULD BE IN CHARGE, NOT A COWARDLY ELY!
WE NEED MORE CAPABLE LEADERS!
NEFARIANS COULD NEVER PROTECT US! THEY CAN BARELY TAKE CARE OF THEMSELVES!
PERSPECTA NEEDS TO BE SECURE!
ELS ARE A BUNCH OF WEAK SAUCE!
NEFS STINK!
AT LEAST WE HAVE FRIENDS!
YOU DO NOT DESERVE TO SHARE THIS PLANET!
EVERYONE! PLEASE!
WE UNDERSTAND YOUR CONCERNS AND WILL ENSURE THE COUNCIL CONTINUES THEIR ASSEMBLY UNTIL A SATISFACTORY RESOLUTION IS ACHIEVED FOR ALL.
UNTIL THEN, THE ELYSIAN GUARD IS STILL ENGAGED AND ON DUTY. THERE WILL BE NO MORE TRANSGRESSIONS AGAINST OUR PEOPLE AND YOUR FUTURE WILL BE SAFE FROM HAR--

SHRUGGED
TO BE CONTINUED IN THE PAGES OF SHRUGGED #2!

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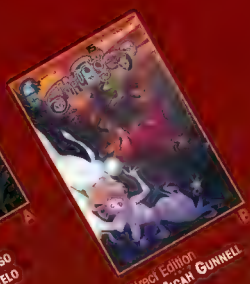

Direct Edition by Micah Gunnell

Theo attempted to ease into adulthood following his high school graduation, but Ange and Dev were polar opposites on their approach to help him. The graduates, Theo and Thom, soared on a sweet rental car for their road trip, but after picking up a salty Klon, realized their drive to college orientation might not be as much fun as expected. Meanwhile in Perspecta, Magnuss attempted to quell a divisive rally of both frustrated and frightened Elysians and Nefomians, but their collective problems were only just the beginning, as the transtescending Chamber suddenly exploded.

INHERITABLE BOWEL SYNDROME

SHRUGGED CREATED BY: MICHAEL TURNER AND FRANK MASTROMAURO

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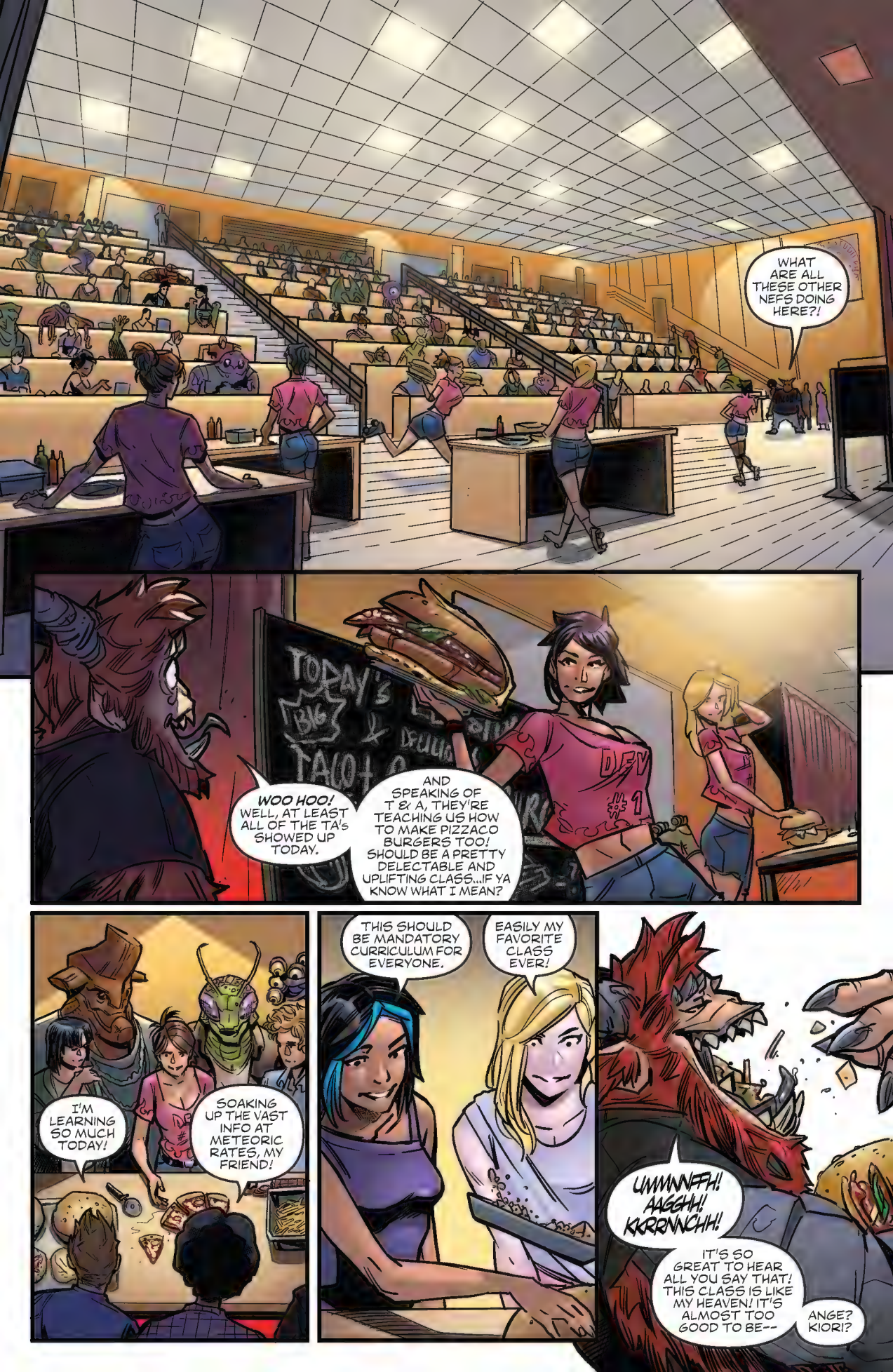
SO THE PROFESSOR SAYS TO ME, 'AS A LONG-STANDING MEMBER OF THIS ESTEEMED EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION, YOU ARE WITHOUT A DOUBT THE BRIGHTEST STUDENT I HAVE EVER HAD THE PLEASURE OF INSTRUCTING.'
SO I SAY TO HIM, 'YEAH, TELL ME SOMETHING I DON'T KNOW, ARI.'
SHORT FOR ARISTOTLE. THAT ANCIENT GREEK DUDE. YOU KNOW THE ONE.
TOTALLY.
AND YOUR REPORT ON YETI BUTTING RECEIVED A STANDING O FROM THE ENTIRE AUDITORIUM. IT WAS AN INSTANT DEV CLASSIC!
COULD NOT AGREE MORE! YOU ARE SO WISE AND WITTY, DEVONSHIRE.
YOU'RE THE MAN, BRO!
AW, YOU GUYS ARE TOO KIND. I'M JUST A HUMBLE SERVANT OF HUMANITY. MY PHILANTHROPY KNOWS NO BOUNDS.
NOW LET'S GET TO--
HEY!


WHAT ARE ALL THESE OTHER NEFS DOING HERE?!
TODAY'S BIG
TACO
DEV
#1
WOO HOO! WELL, AT LEAST ALL OF THE TA's SHOWED UP TODAY.
AND SPEAKING OF T & A, THEY'RE TEACHING US HOW TO MAKE PIZZACO BURGERS TOO! SHOULD BE A PRETTY DELECTABLE AND UPLIFTING CLASS...IF YA KNOW WHAT I MEAN?
I'M LEARNING SO MUCH TODAY!
SOAKING UP THE VAST INFO AT METEORIC RATES, MY FRIEND!
THIS SHOULD BE MANDATORY CURRICULUM FOR EVERYONE.
EASILY MY FAVORITE CLASS EVER!
UMMNNFH! AAGGH! KRRNNCHH!
IT'S SO GREAT TO HEAR ALL YOU SAY THAT! THIS CLASS IS LIKE MY HEAVEN! IT'S ALMOST TOO GOOD TO BE--
ANGE? KIORI?

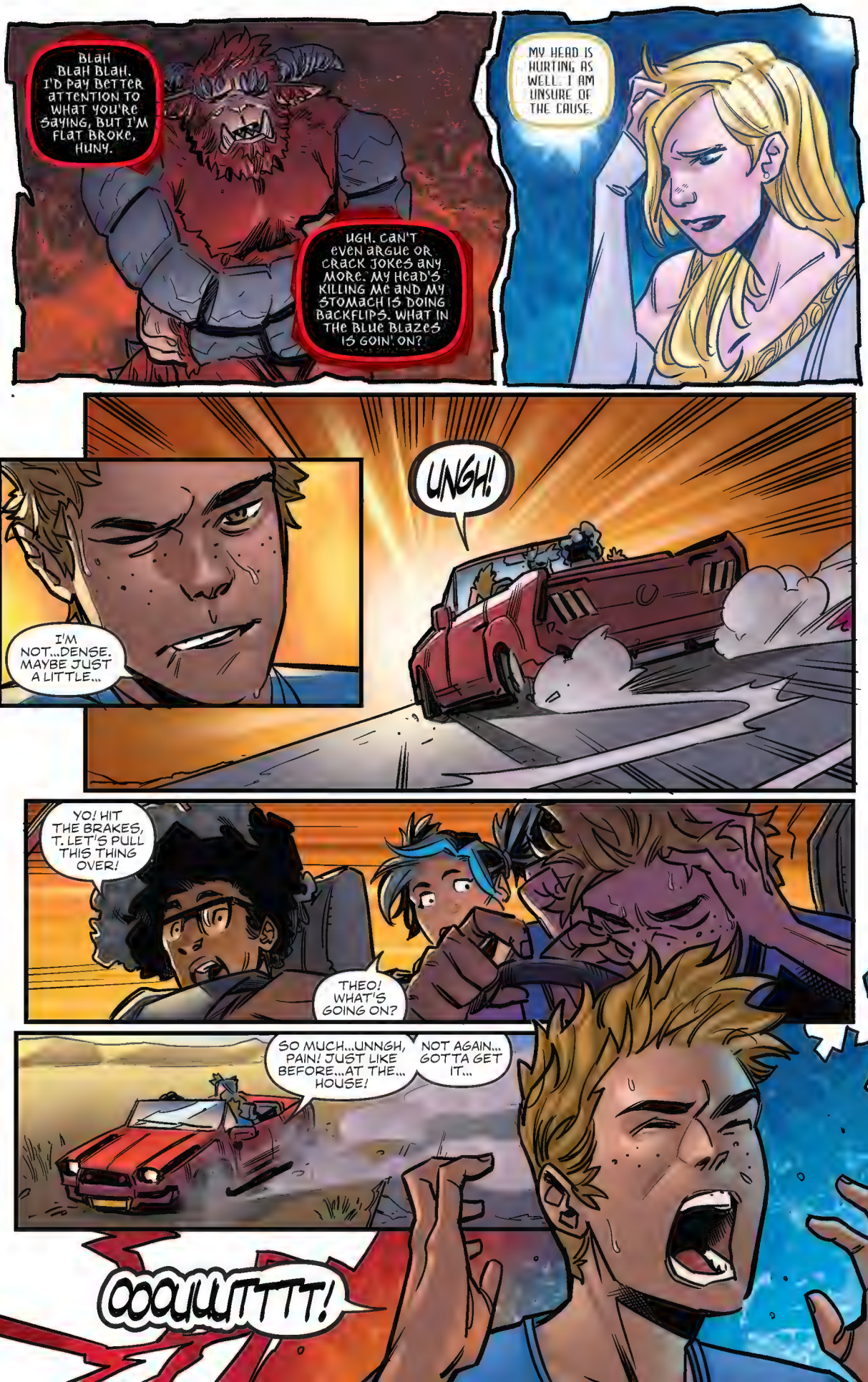
YES, DEVONSHIRE?
TEE HEE
TEACH US MORE, DEV!
YEAH, MY MAN. SHOW US THE WAY. WE WANT TO EAT MORE!
SHOW US ALL, DEV. WE NEED IT!
GIVE IT TO US! WE WANT YOU, DEV!
A GIANT DEV PIZZA WOULD BE YUMMY!
EAT MORE NOW! EAT! EAT YOU!
NO! WHAT'S WRONG WITH ALL OF YOU?!
YOU'RE ACTING SO CRAZY. YOU CAN'T EAT ME! THAT'S RIDICULOUS! I'D GIVE YOU A STOMACH ACHE! SNAP OUT OF IT. JUST STOP! STO--
AGGHHH!
OH, WOW! THAT WAS THE CRAZIEST NIGHTMARE EVER!
WELL HAD YOU NOT FALLEN ASLEEP TEN MINUTES INTO THE DRIVE, YOU COULD HAVE BEEN ENJOYING THE BEAUTIFUL SCENERY WITH EVERYONE.
WHAT SCENERY? ALL I SEE IS DESERT EVERYWHERE!
IT'S SO HOT AND BORING. AND HOT! AND MY TUMMY'S BEEN HURTIN' EVER SINCE WE LEFT. DUMB CAR SICKNESS.
TO BE HONEST, I HAVE NOT FELT THE GREATEST MYSELF EITHER.
UGH. THIS ROAD TRIP STINKS SO FAR, ANGE. WHAT I WOULDN'T GIVE FOR SOME AIR CONDITIONING AND SOME EXCITEMENT!

PERSPECTA.
SOMEONE HELP OVER HERE.
UNGGGHH.
HOLD ON, MARINA! I WILL HAVE YOU FREED MOMENTARILY.
ARE YOU UNHARMED?
FOR THE MOST PART, YES. THANK YOU FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE.
BUT SO MANY OTHERS ARE HURT. THEY NEED YOUR HELP AS WELL.
INDEED. MY GUARDS ARE PROVIDING AID TO EVERY CITIZEN WHO REQUIRES IT. WE WILL NOT REST UNTIL EVERYONE AFFECTED BY THIS TRAGEDY IS SAFE AGAIN.

LIES!
WE'RE NOT SAFE AT ALL!
YEAH, NOT WITH YOU AND THE ELS IN CHARGE!
LORD MAGNUSS IS NOT TO BLAME!
YOUR CARELESS WAYS NO DOUBT CONTRIBUTED TO THIS CATASTROPHE!
ALL NEFARIANS SHOULD BE ASHAMED!
CITIZENS, PLEASE!
OUR EFFORTS TO FIND OUT WHO WAS BEHIND TODAY'S HORRIBLE EVENTS WILL BE UNWAVERING. WHETHER AN ELYSIAN OR NEFARIAN IS AT FAULT, WE WILL UNCOVER THE TRUTH AND BRING THOSE RESPONSIBLE TO JUSTICE!
MORE BIG TALK! NO LONGER!
WE'RE TAKING BACK OUR LIVES!
GONNA TAKE BACK PERSPECTA TOO!
I UNDERSTAND YOUR PAIN, BUT PLEASE LET US--
IT'S TOO LATE FOR THAT, MAGNUSS!
NEFS WILL BE IN CHARGE AGAIN!
WE CHALLENGE TO LEAD OR WE'LL ALL DIE TRYING!

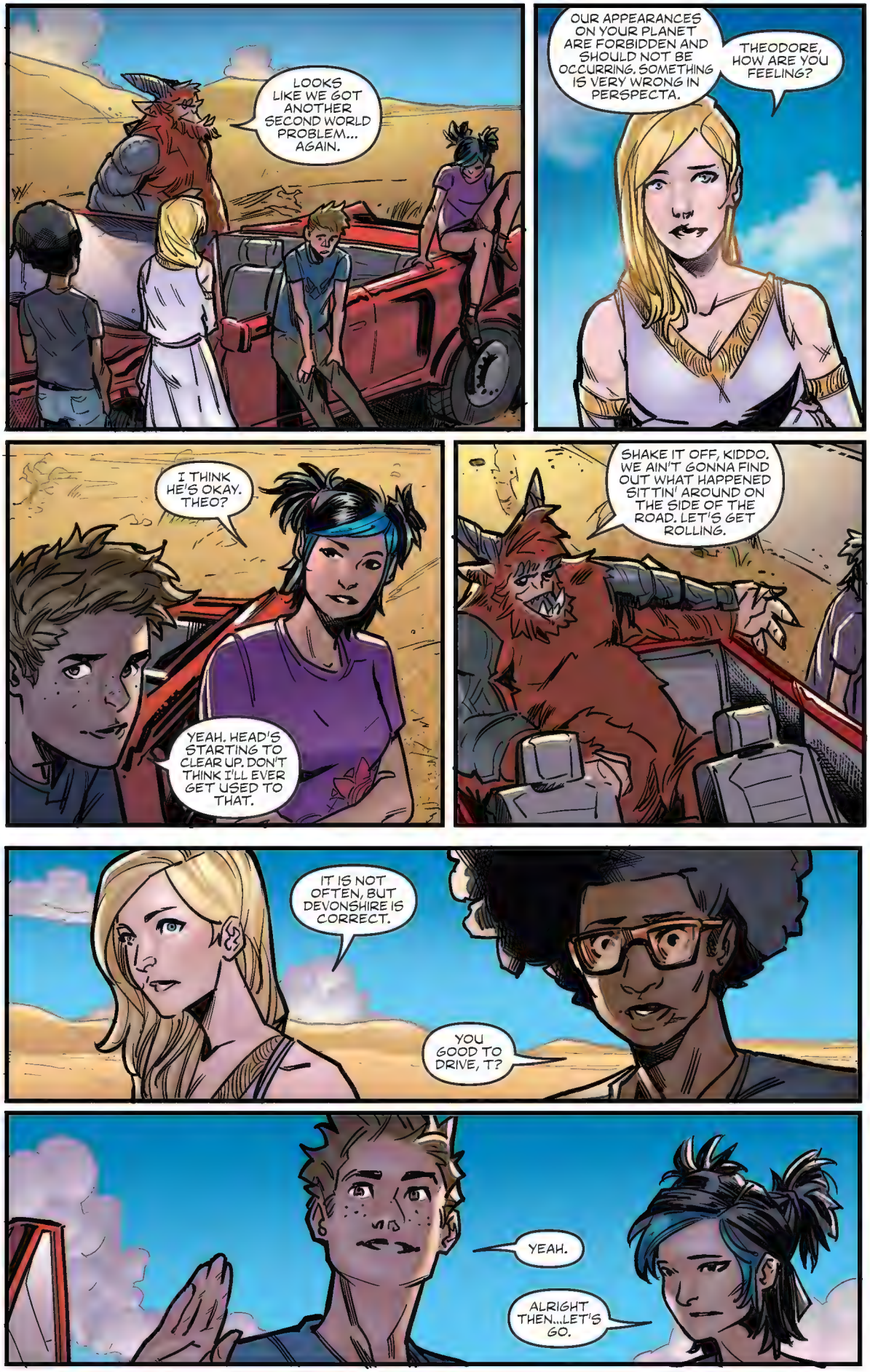
STILL NOTHING, THOM?
WELL, UNLESS YOU HAVE AN 8-TRACK COLLECTION SITTIN' IN YOUR BACKPACK, IT'S EITHER TALK RADIO OR MARIACHIS FOR THE NEXT HUNDO MILES.
GOOD WITH THE BAD WITH THIS CAR I GUESS.
YOU DOING ALRIGHT BACK THERE? NEED TO STOP FOR UH, A BATHROOM BREAK OR ANYTHING?
OH, THERE'S DEFINITELY SOMETHING I'D LIKE TO BREAK.
...OKAY.
KIORI, I ALREADY SAID I WAS SORRY. LIKE A MILLION TIMES.
I WANT YOU TO HAVE A GOOD TIME ON THIS TRIP. I WANT...US, TO HAVE FUN, YA KNOW. THINK WE CAN DO THAT?
YOU REALLY ARE CLUELESS, AREN'T YOU?

WHERE HAVE I HEARD THAT ONE BEFORE?
UH, NO.
I UNDERSTAND I MADE A MISTAKE, BUT I FEEL LIKE YOU'RE TREATING ME PRETTY UNFAIRLY. I ALREADY TOLD YOU WHAT HAPPENED WITH LOU.
NICE ONE, KID. SHE HAS BEEN TREAT'N YA LIKE GARBAGE. THE DAME SHOULD APOLOGIZE.
WHO, LOUISA? THIS ISN'T ABOUT HER AT ALL! YEAH, SHE WAS KINDA SWEET ON YOU FOR SOME STRANGE REASON, BUT SHE'S MOVED TO THE OTHER SIDE OF THE COUNTRY FOR SCHOOL.
WHY ARE YOU SO DENSE SOMETIMES?
DENSE?! ALRIGHT, THOSE ARE FIGHTIN' WORDS! PULL THIS CAR OVER RIGHT NOW. WE'RE GONNA THROW DOWN IN THIS WASTELAND!
OH, PLEASE. GIVE IT A REST, DEVONSHIRE. KIORI IS CORRECT IN HER ASSESSMENT. THEO IS BEING QUITE INSENSITIVE AND HAS NOT LISTENED VERY WELL IN THEIR PREVIOUS CONVERSATIONS.
WE NEED TO PAY BETTER ATTENTION TO WHAT SHE IS REALLY SAYING.


BLAH BLAH BLAH. I'D PAY BETTER ATTENTION TO WHAT YOU'RE SAYING, BUT I'M FLAT BROKE, HUNY.
UGH. CAN'T EVEN ARGUE OR CRACK JOKES ANY MORE. MY HEAD'S KILLING ME AND MY STOMACH IS DOING BACKFLIPS. WHAT IN THE BLUE BLAZES IS GOIN' ON?
MY HEAD IS HURTING AS WELL. I AM UNSURE OF THE CAUSE.
UNGH!
I'M NOT...DENSE. MAYBE JUST A LITTLE...
YO! HIT THE BRAKES, T. LET'S PULL THIS THING OVER!
THEO! WHAT'S GOING ON?
SO MUCH...UNNGH, PAIN! JUST LIKE BEFORE...AT THE... HOUSE!
NOT AGAIN... GOTTA GET IT...
OOOUUTTT!

OH, DEAR.
WHAT UP, T-DOG. GOT ANY SUNSCREEN?

SOMEWHERE BELOW PERSPECTA.
DIS PLACE IS GIVIN' ME DA CREEPS.
WHY WE MEETIN' IN DA BATTY CAVE?
HE SAID HERE, WE'RE HERE. C'MON, ALMOST LATE.
MASTER, IT IS DONE.
ONLY RUBBLE REMAINS.
WAR IS IMMINENT.
THE NEFARIANS FINALLY TAKE ACTION. IT HAS BEEN FAR TOO LONG.
AND DEV'S PARTING GIFT?
GIVEN.
DA BIG OAF GUZZLED IT RIGHT DOWN!
WE DONE GOOD, YEAH?
SO FAR, YES.
NOW, WE WAIT FOR...THE DIS-GEORGE.
HA HA HA HA HA HA


LOOKS LIKE WE GOT ANOTHER SECOND WORLD PROBLEM... AGAIN.
OUR APPEARANCES ON YOUR PLANET ARE FORBIDDEN AND SHOULD NOT BE OCCURRING. SOMETHING IS VERY WRONG IN PERSPECTA.
THEODORE, HOW ARE YOU FEELING?
I THINK HE'S OKAY. THEO?
YEAH. HEAD'S STARTING TO CLEAR UP. DON'T THINK I'LL EVER GET USED TO THAT.
SHAKE IT OFF, KIDDO. WE AIN'T GONNA FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENED SITTIN' AROUND ON THE SIDE OF THE ROAD. LET'S GET ROLLING.
IT IS NOT OFTEN, BUT DEVONSHIRE IS CORRECT.
YOU GOOD TO DRIVE, T?
YEAH.
ALRIGHT THEN...LET'S GO.

A LITTLE WHILE LATER.
AW, MAN...
WE NEED TO GET GAS AGAIN.
IT WAS COOL OF MY PARENTS TO GET US THIS CAR, BUT IT SURE DOES BURN THROUGH FUEL.
THERE'S A GAS STATION COMING UP.
COOLIO. GOTTA EXPEL SOME FLUIDS ANYWAY.
ME TOO.
TRIPLING-DOWN ON THAT, FROM THE REAR.
DEV!
WHAT?! THE D-E-V IS DEALING WITH A LITTLE I-B-S. AND IT'S TWEAKIN' HARD. BETTER GET THERE SOON OR THIS BACK SEAT IS GONNA BE TOAST!
OPEN
HOLD ON, DEV. WE'RE JUST ABOUT THERE.
I SAW A LINE FOR THE RESTROOM. FORGET THAT. I'M FINDING A TREE!
WE'LL GO IN AND WAIT, THANK YOU.
I'LL FILL UP AND MEET YOU GUYS INSIDE.

WHAT WUS THAT?!
C'MON, DARYL!
THERE'S SOME KINDA BEAR OR BEAST RUNNIN' ROUND OUT HERE. LET'S GO GET IT!
OH BOY, GONNA BE A ROUGH ONE.
HNNNHGGHH--
TOCK
WHAT THE HELL?!
YA JUST MISSED 'IM, EARL!
I GOT 'IM FOR SURE THIS TIME.
YOU GUYS ARE CRAZY!

DEV STILL DOING HIS BUSINESS?
I'LL CHECK IN ON OUR WOOLY COHORT.
HOPEFULLY HE IS NOT CAUSING ANY TROUBLE.
HUNDREDS OF...UHNNN... MILES OF NOTHING BUT DESERT AND I GET STUCK IN A CORNER...UNN... RUNNING AWAY FROM THESE YAHOOS? WHAT A JOKE!
WE GOTCHA NOW!
SO LONG BEASTY!
WHOA THERE FELLAS!
REALLY APPRECIATE YA'LL FINDING MY LOST FRIEND HERE. HE'S ON HIS WAY TO A PETTING ZOO IN ARIZONA AND GOT FREE FROM HIS CAGE. THE LITTLE KIDDIES WOULDA BEEN QUITE DISMAYED IF HE DIDN'T MAKE IT THERE.
WHAT IZ IT?
YEAH. HE DON'T LOOK LIKE NOTHIN' WE EVER SEEN.
WHA, YOU BOYS NEVER HEARD OF A TAPIRISON BEFORE?
THEY'RE ALL THE RAGE COMING OUT OF THE SERENGETI THIS TIME OF YEAR.
EQUAL PARTS TAPIR AND BISON WITH A HINT OF WILDEBEEST THROWN IN FOR GOOD MEASURE. HEFTY BUT HARMLESS AS CAN BE.
WELL, BEST BE GOING NOW. QUARTER PAST FEEDING TIME. SEE YA, GENTS.
EVERYTHING COOL?
RIGHT AS RAIN, BRO. WHAT SAY YOU, BIG GUY?
THE OPEN ROAD CALLS. HIT IT, T.
BUT PLEASE KEEP TO THE SPEED LIMIT, THEODORE. WE DO NOT NEED ANY UNEXPECTED SURPRISES.
HE'S FINE, ANGE. IT'S NOTHIN' BUT SMOOTH SAIL--

LOOK OUT!

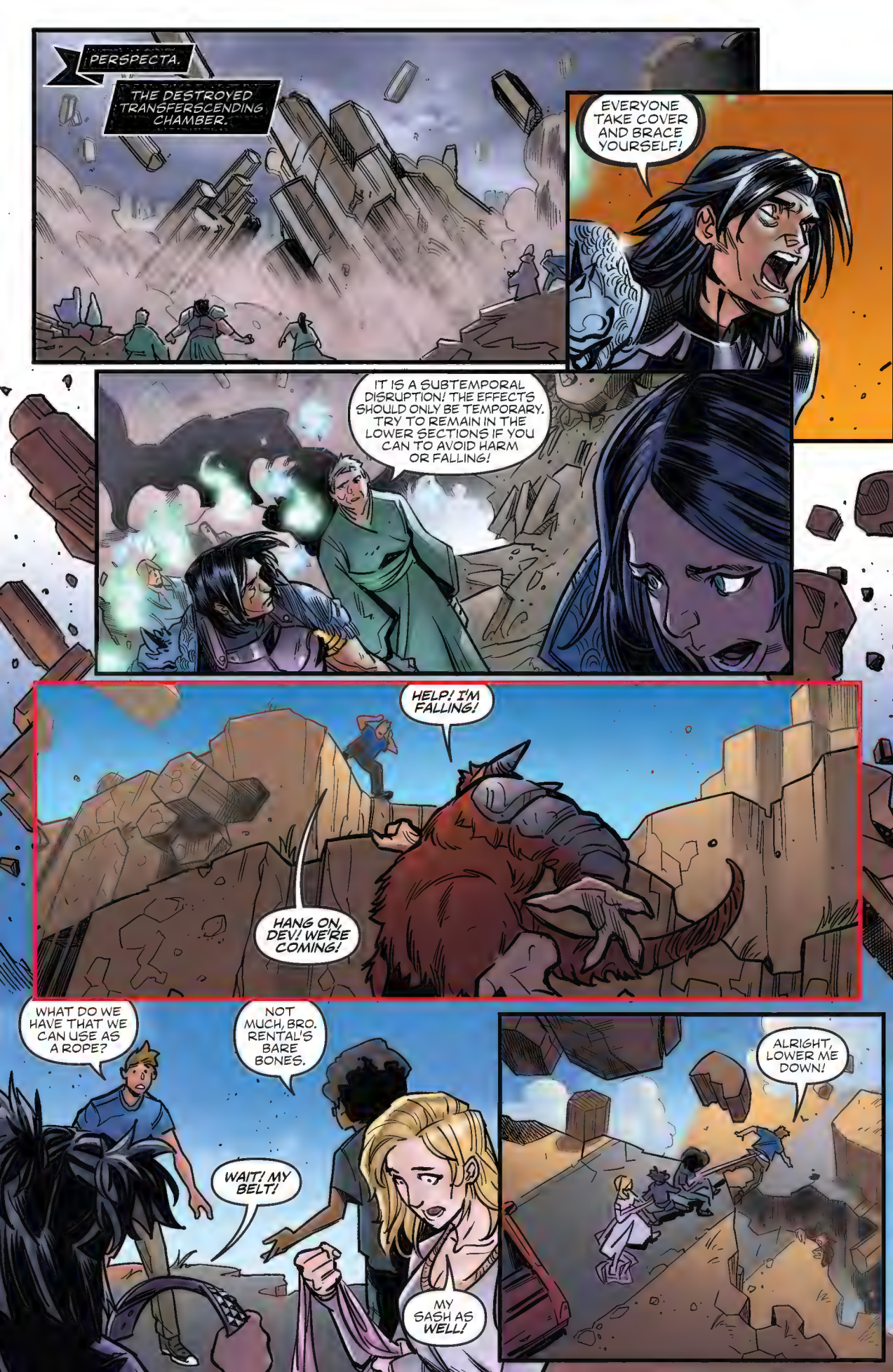
WHOA! EVERYONE HOLD OOOOOOOOOONNNN!

SCHHRRREEUUCCHH

OH, CRAP...

I WASN'T WEARING MY SEAT BELT!

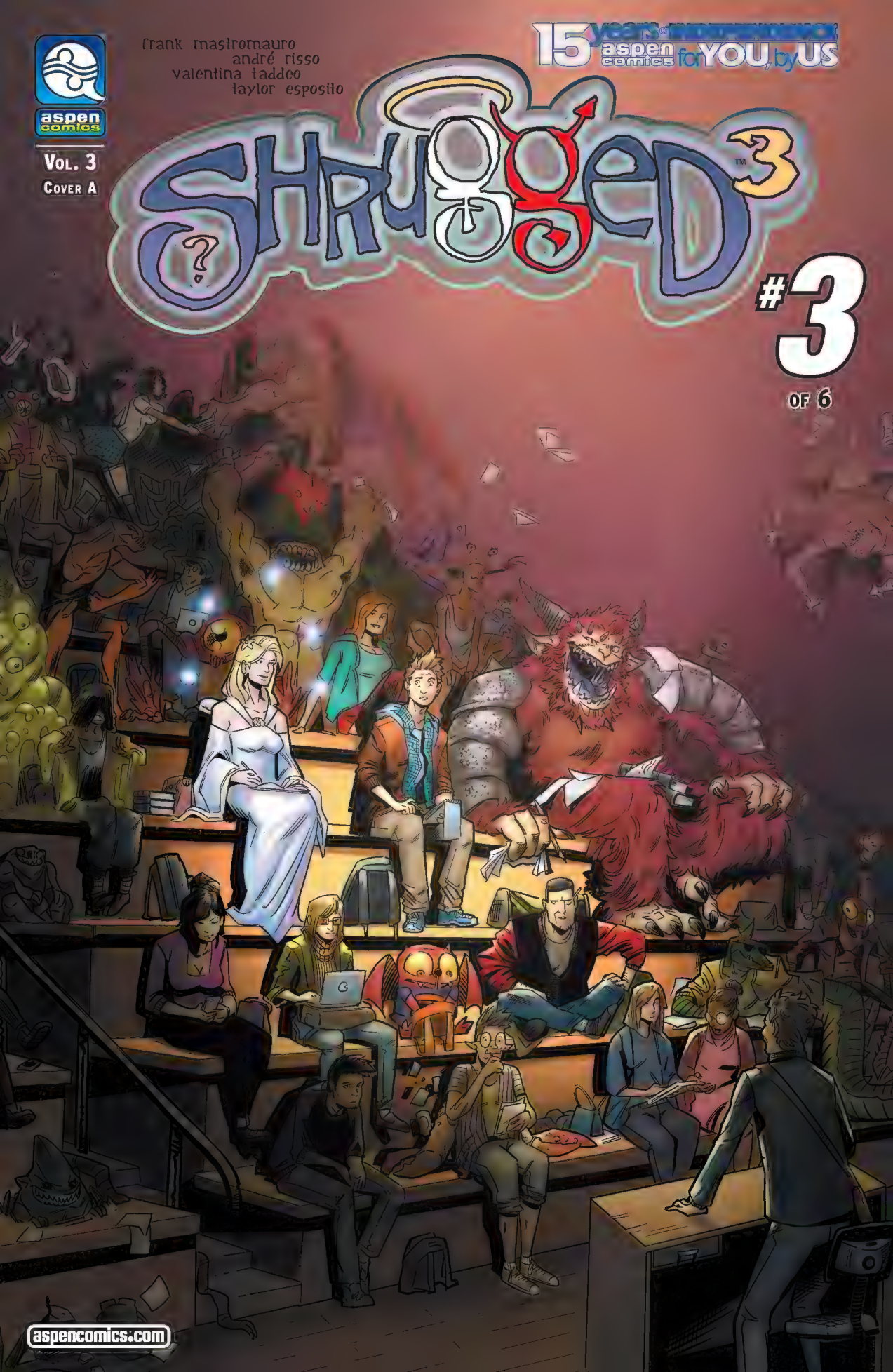
DEV!


PERSPECTA.
THE DESTROYED TRANSFERSCENDING CHAMBER.
EVERYONE TAKE COVER AND BRACE YOURSELF!
IT IS A SUBTEMPORAL DISRUPTION! THE EFFECTS SHOULD ONLY BE TEMPORARY. TRY TO REMAIN IN THE LOWER SECTIONS IF YOU CAN TO AVOID HARM OR FALLING!
HELP! I'M FALLING!
HANG ON, DEV! WE'RE COMING!
WHAT DO WE HAVE THAT WE CAN USE AS A ROPE?
NOT MUCH, BRO. RENTAL'S BARE BONES.
WAIT! MY BELT!
MY SASH AS WELL!
ALRIGHT, LOWER ME DOWN!

THE GROUND! IT'S SHIFTING AGAIN!
AAGGHH!
HOLD FAST EVERYONE! IT IS ALMOST...
AAAAAHHH!
OVER.

UGHH, EVERYBODY OKAY?
UNBELIEVABLY, YES.
STILL LIVING.
WHERE IS DEVONSHIRE?
HEY, DEV? WHERE ARE YOU?
UGGGHHHHH--
DEVONSHIRE? WHAT IS WRONG?
MY STOMACH.. SO MUCH PAIN.
IT'S PROBABLY FROM THE FALL. MOTION SICKNESS OR SOMETHING.
YEAH, TOO MUCH HANG TIME MJ.
NO... SOMETHING'S WRONG. FEEL LIKE...
I'M GONNA...

ANYBODY GOT A WET NAP?
TO BE CONTINUED IN THE PAGES OF SHRUGGED #3!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PREVIOUSLY IN:

Below Perspecta, the What-If-Mafia's new leader set in motion his power play to lead the Nefarians into long-awaited rebellion. Theo and friends hit the open road, but quickly realize they are on treacherous terrain, as Theo's migraine soon manifested into Ange and Dev appearing in the real world once again. However, things got really strange when their world turned upside down and the road violently shifted into moving chasms of earth. The group narrowly escaped, but Dev vomited up something no one saw coming—a smaller version of himself...

87 LBS OF FROZEN TURKEY

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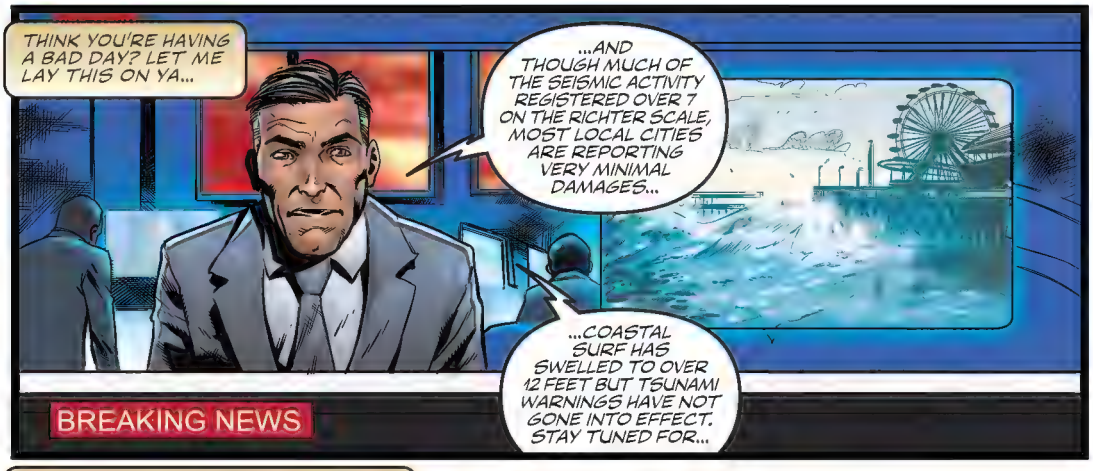
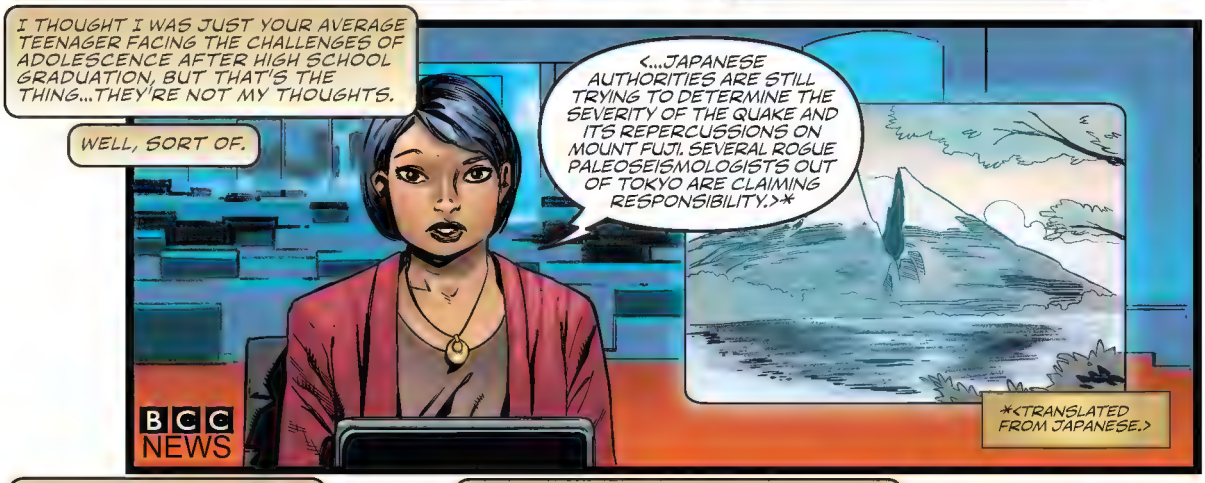
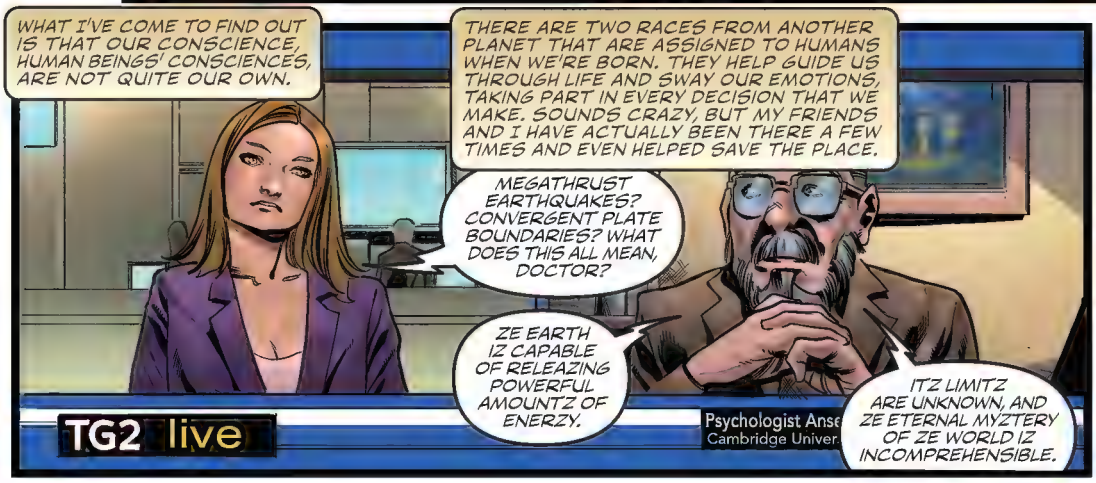
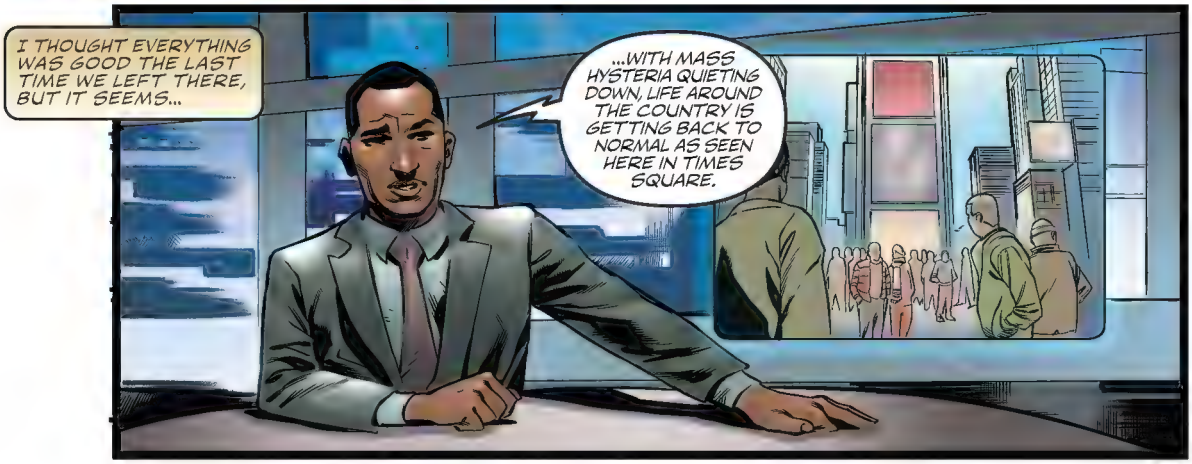

THINK YOU'RE HAVING A BAD DAY? LET ME LAY THIS ON YA...
...AND THOUGH MUCH OF THE SEISMIC ACTIVITY REGISTERED OVER 7 ON THE RICHTER SCALE, MOST LOCAL CITIES ARE REPORTING VERY MINIMAL DAMAGES...
...COASTAL SURF HAS SWELLED TO OVER 12 FEET BUT TSUNAMI WARNINGS HAVE NOT GONE INTO EFFECT. STAY TUNED FOR...
BREAKING NEWS


I THOUGHT I WAS JUST YOUR AVERAGE TEENAGER FACING THE CHALLENGES OF ADOLESCENCE AFTER HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION, BUT THAT'S THE THING...THEY'RE NOT MY THOUGHTS.
WELL, SORT OF.
<...JAPANESE AUTHORITIES ARE STILL TRYING TO DETERMINE THE SEVERITY OF THE QUAKE AND ITS REPERCUSSIONS ON MOUNT FUJI. SEVERAL ROGUE PALEOSEISMOLOGISTS OUT OF TOKYO ARE CLAIMING RESPONSIBILITY.>*
*<TRANSLATED FROM JAPANESE.>
BCC NEWS


WHAT I'VE COME TO FIND OUT IS THAT OUR CONSCIENCE, HUMAN BEINGS' CONSCIENCES, ARE NOT QUITE OUR OWN.
THERE ARE TWO RACES FROM ANOTHER PLANET THAT ARE ASSIGNED TO HUMANS WHEN WE'RE BORN. THEY HELP GUIDE US THROUGH LIFE AND SWAY OUR EMOTIONS, TAKING PART IN EVERY DECISION THAT WE MAKE. SOUNDS CRAZY, BUT MY FRIENDS AND I HAVE ACTUALLY BEEN THERE A FEW TIMES AND EVEN HELPED SAVE THE PLACE.
MEGATHRUST EARTHQUAKES? CONVERGENT PLATE BOUNDARIES? WHAT DOES THIS ALL MEAN, DOCTOR?
ZE EARTH IZ CAPABLE OF RELEAZING POWERFUL AMOUNTZ OF ENERZY.
ITZ LIMITZ ARE UNKNOWN, AND ZE ETERNAL MYZTERY OF ZE WORLD IZ INCOMPREHENSIBLE.
TG2 live
Psychologist Anse
Cambridge Univer

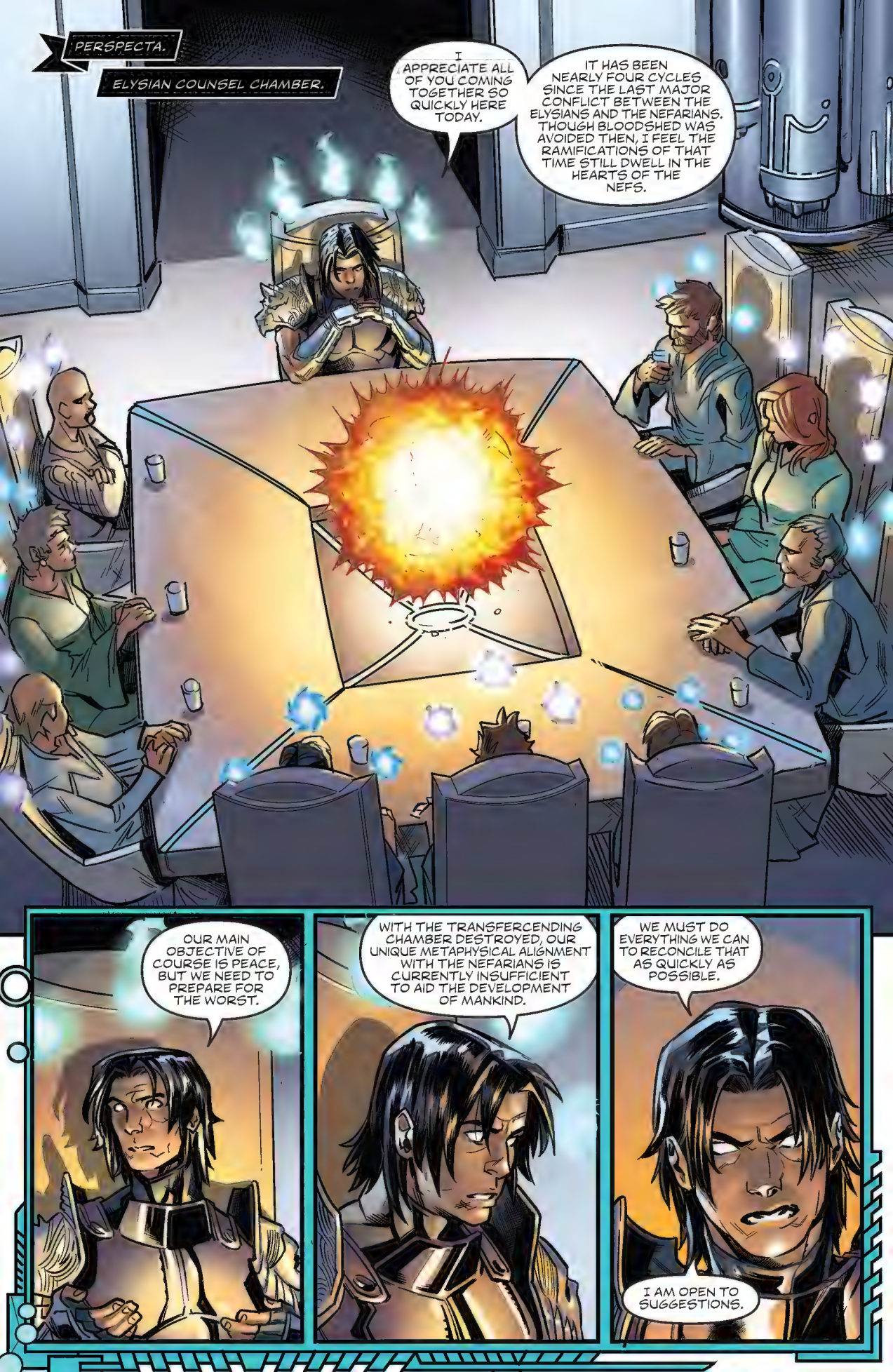

I THOUGHT EVERYTHING WAS GOOD THE LAST TIME WE LEFT THERE, BUT IT SEEMS...
...WITH MASS HYSTERIA QUIETING DOWN, LIFE AROUND THE COUNTRY IS GETTING BACK TO NORMAL AS SEEN HERE IN TIMES SQUARE.

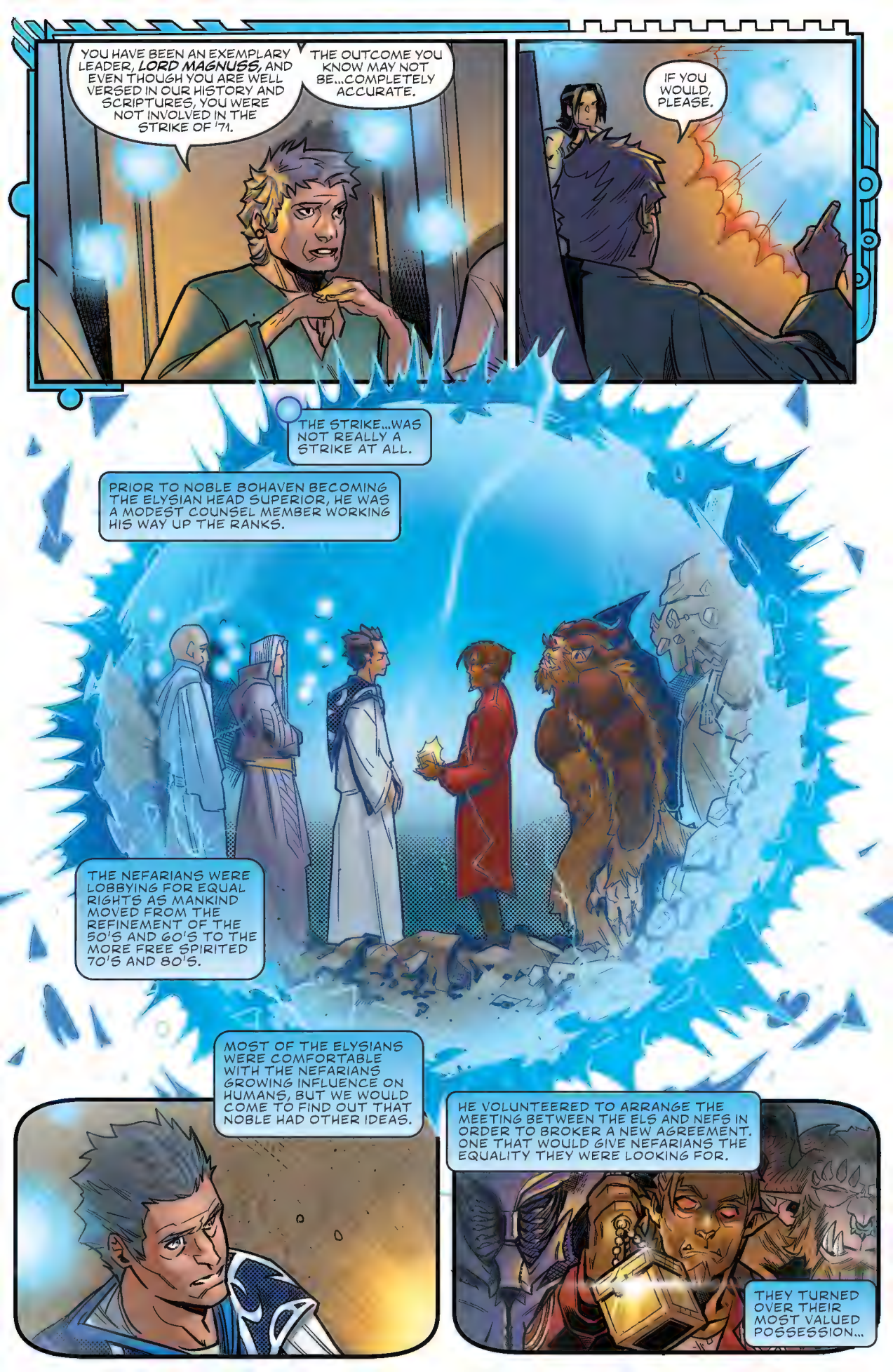
NEFARIO.
THINGS ARE WORSE THAN EVER.
ZZZZZ
KKRRASSHH
FLO! WAKE UP, MAN. WAKE UP!
THINGS ARE BETTER THAN EVER!
WHA?! WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, SNOOF?
LOOK AROUND YOU, MAN. THIS PLACE IS STILL A TOTAL DUMP! OUR LIVES DON'T MEAN SQUAT. NOTHING IS BETTER.
NOT HERE.

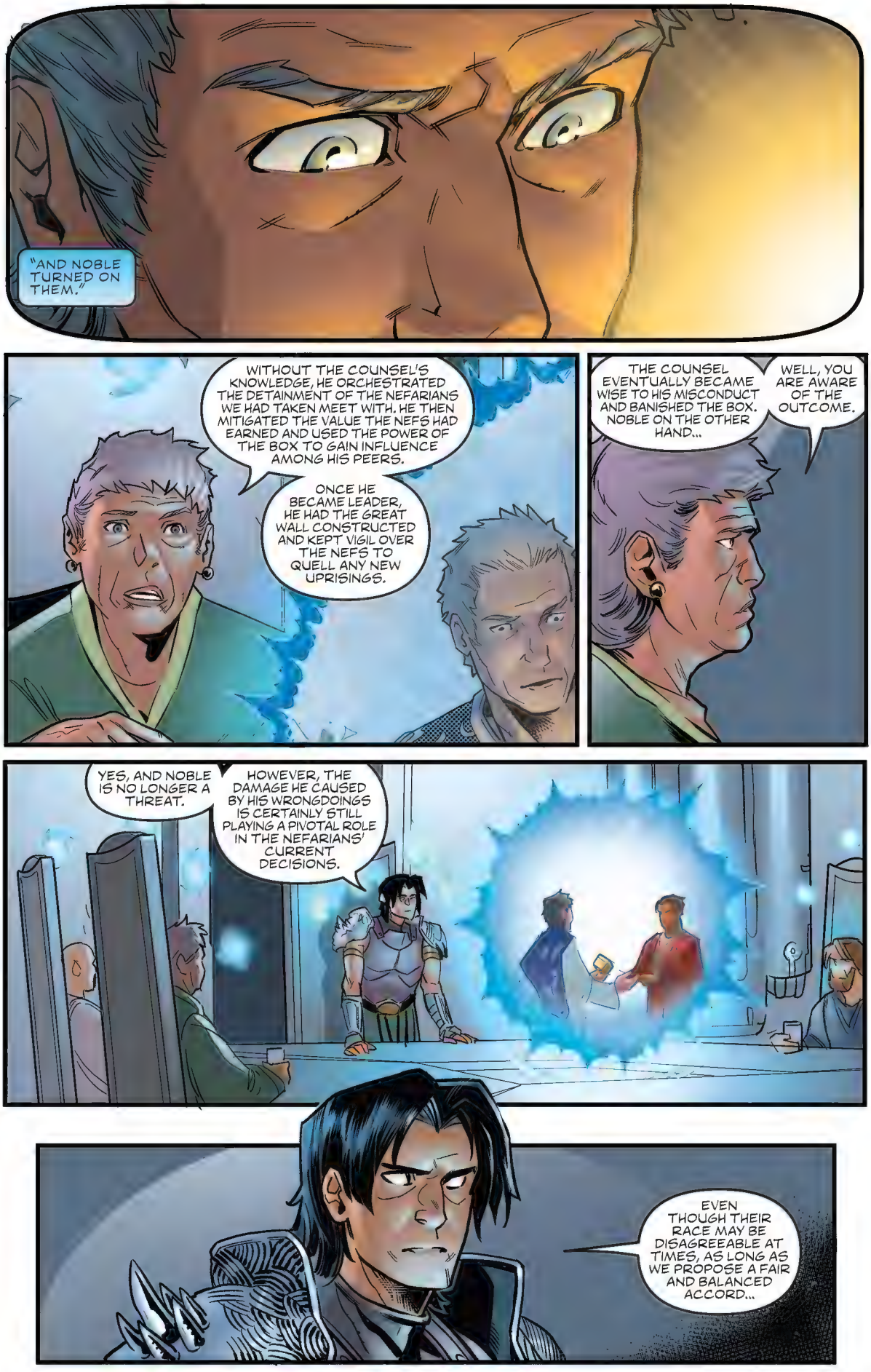
OUT THERE! BEHOLD!
WHILE YOU WERE SLEEPING, EVERYTHING'S CHANGED. THE TRANSFERSCENDING CHAMBER WAS DESTROYED AND THE NEFS ARE REBELLING! THEY WANT TO TAKE OVER PERSPECTA!
IT'S THE DAWNING OF A NEW ERA AND THERE'S SOME MYSTERIOUS NEW LEADER CALLING ALL THE SHOTS. WE GOTTA GO SEE WHAT'S GOING ON!
GO! GO! GO!
WE'RE ALWAYS SAYIN' WE WANT TO GET OUT OF HERE AND DO SOMETHING WITH OUR LIVES. THIS IS OUR CHANCE, FLO, MY BOY.
DUDE...
YOU HAD ME AT WAKE UP.
LET'S GO!

I GOTTA SAY...
THIS IS EVEN CRAZIER THAN USHE.
WHAT IS WITH THIS LITTLE HOMIE?
BARELY TWENTY MINUTES OLD AND HE'S ALREADY SUCH A GOOD EATER.
SURE DOES MAKE *DAD* PROUD!
DAD?
DEVONSHIRE, YOU DO KNOW THAT IS NOT POSSIBLE, CORRECT?
YEAH YEAH, DOCTOR RUTH. I STUDIED THE PAMPHLETS WHEN I WAS YOUNGER, SAME AS YOU. MAYBE I PROCREATE DIFFERENTLY THAN EVERYONE ELSE, YA EVER THINK OF THAT? LIKE ONE OF THOSE ASEXUAL TREE FROGS OR THE DINOSAURS THAT CHRIS PRATT GUY HANGS OUT WITH.

YOUR BOY GOT A NAME?
IT'S GEORGE, MY GOOD FELLOW.
BUT THIS LITTLE HOTTIE CAN CALL ME SWEET G, OR ANYTHING SHE WANTS.
MY BOY. SUCH A LADIES MAN!
HEY! TRYING TO DRIVE HERE!
C'MON, GIVE UP THE FOOD, KID. I NEED MORE GRUB.
FINE, JUST GET OFF.
WE CAN ALL USE SOME FOOD ANYWAY. WE'LL STOP IN THE NEXT TOWN.
OH, YEAH! ONWARD MY METAL STEED!

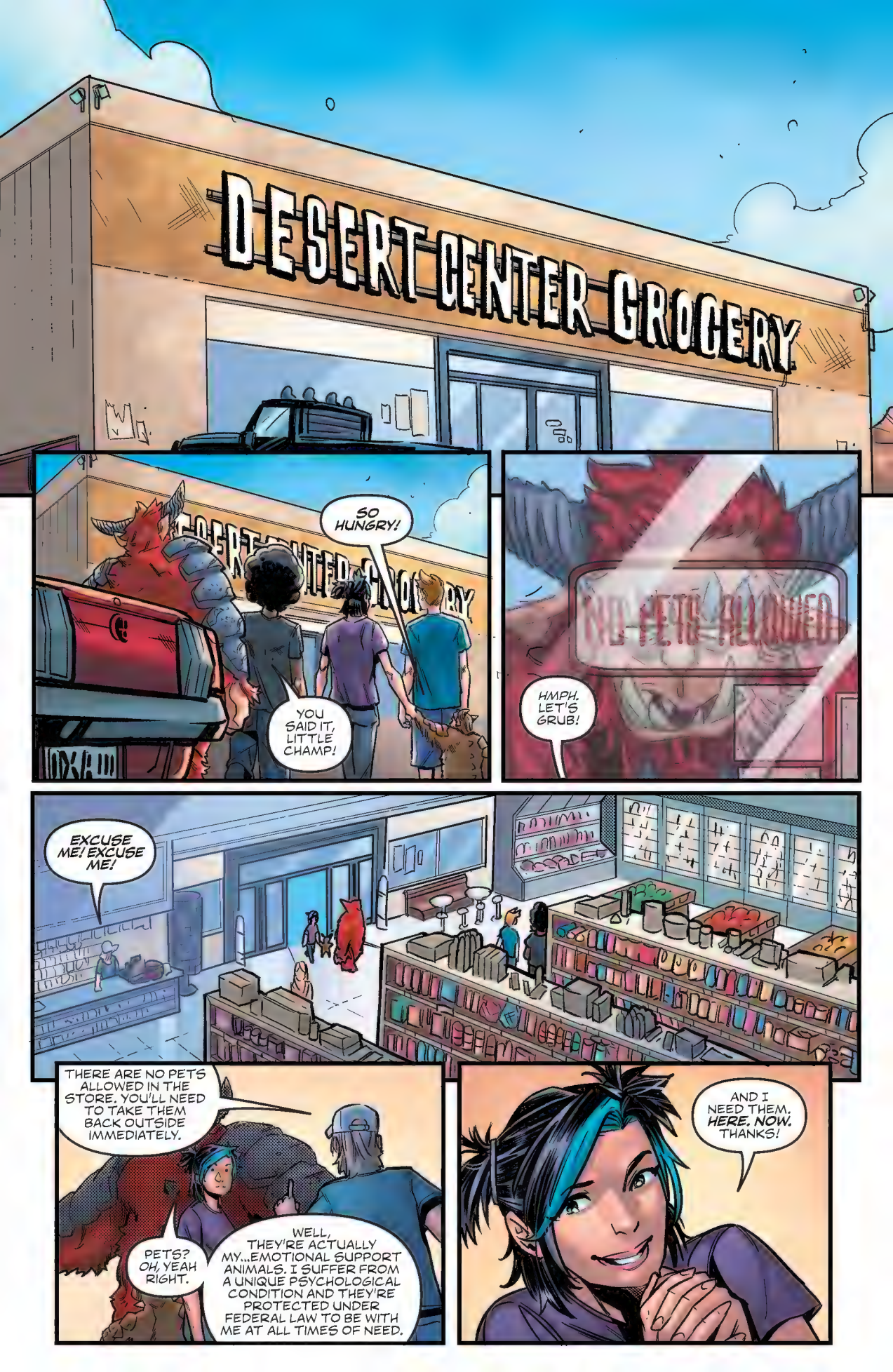

PERSPECTA.
ELYSIAN COUNSEL CHAMBER.
I APPRECIATE ALL OF YOU COMING TOGETHER SO QUICKLY HERE TODAY.
IT HAS BEEN NEARLY FOUR CYCLES SINCE THE LAST MAJOR CONFLICT BETWEEN THE ELYSIANS AND THE NEFARIANS. THOUGH BLOODSHED WAS AVOIDED THEN, I FEEL THE RAMIFICATIONS OF THAT TIME STILL DWELL IN THE HEARTS OF THE NEFS.
OUR MAIN OBJECTIVE OF COURSE IS PEACE, BUT WE NEED TO PREPARE FOR THE WORST.
WITH THE TRANSFERCENDING CHAMBER DESTROYED, OUR UNIQUE METAPHYSICAL ALIGNMENT WITH THE NEFARIANS IS CURRENTLY INSUFFICIENT TO AID THE DEVELOPMENT OF MANKIND.
WE MUST DO EVERYTHING WE CAN TO RECONCILE THAT AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.
I AM OPEN TO SUGGESTIONS.

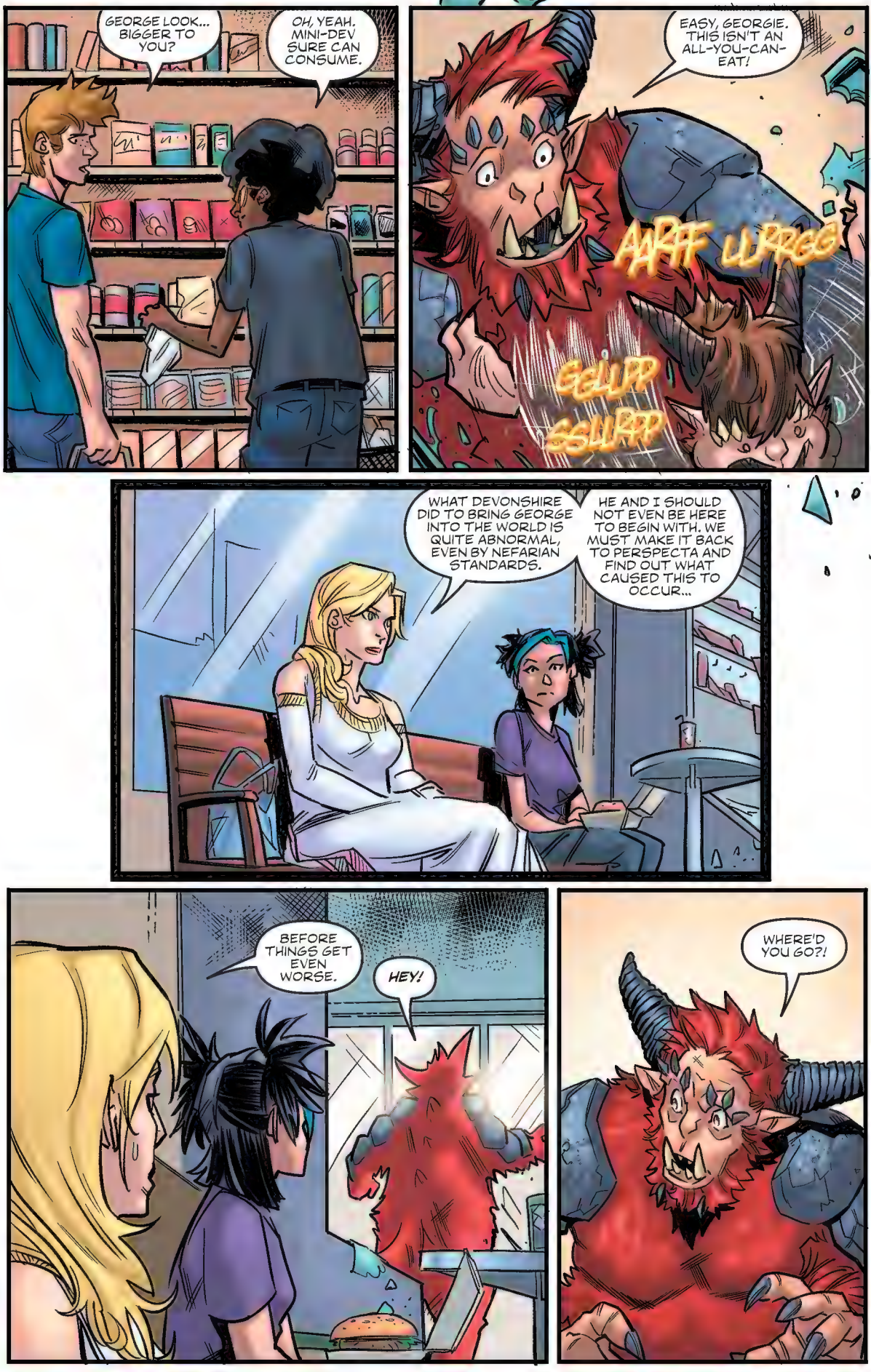

YOU HAVE BEEN AN EXEMPLARY LEADER, LORD MAGNUSS, AND EVEN THOUGH YOU ARE WELL VERSED IN OUR HISTORY AND SCRIPTURES, YOU WERE NOT INVOLVED IN THE STRIKE OF '71.
THE OUTCOME YOU KNOW MAY NOT BE...COMPLETELY ACCURATE.
IF YOU WOULD, PLEASE.
THE STRIKE...WAS NOT REALLY A STRIKE AT ALL.
PRIOR TO NOBLE BOHAVEN BECOMING THE ELYSIAN HEAD SUPERIOR, HE WAS A MODEST COUNSEL MEMBER WORKING HIS WAY UP THE RANKS.
THE NEFARIANS WERE LOBBYING FOR EQUAL RIGHTS AS MANKIND MOVED FROM THE REFINEMENT OF THE 50'S AND 60'S TO THE MORE FREE SPIRITED 70'S AND 80'S.
MOST OF THE ELYSIANS WERE COMFORTABLE WITH THE NEFARIANS GROWING INFLUENCE ON HUMANS, BUT WE WOULD COME TO FIND OUT THAT NOBLE HAD OTHER IDEAS.
HE VOLUNTEERED TO ARRANGE THE MEETING BETWEEN THE ELS AND NEFS IN ORDER TO BROKER A NEW AGREEMENT. ONE THAT WOULD GIVE NEFARIANS THE EQUALITY THEY WERE LOOKING FOR.
THEY TURNED OVER THEIR MOST VALUED POSSESSION...


"AND NOBLE TURNED ON THEM."
WITHOUT THE COUNSEL'S KNOWLEDGE, HE ORCHESTRATED THE DETAINMENT OF THE NEFARIANS WE HAD TAKEN MEET WITH. HE THEN MITIGATED THE VALUE THE NEFS HAD EARNED AND USED THE POWER OF THE BOX TO GAIN INFLUENCE AMONG HIS PEERS.
ONCE HE BECAME LEADER, HE HAD THE GREAT WALL CONSTRUCTED AND KEPT VIGIL OVER THE NEFS TO QUELL ANY NEW UPRISINGS.
THE COUNSEL EVENTUALLY BECAME WISE TO HIS MISCONDUCT AND BANISHED THE BOX. NOBLE ON THE OTHER HAND...
WELL, YOU ARE AWARE OF THE OUTCOME.
YES, AND NOBLE IS NO LONGER A THREAT.
HOWEVER, THE DAMAGE HE CAUSED BY HIS WRONGDOINGS IS CERTAINLY STILL PLAYING A PIVOTAL ROLE IN THE NEFARIANS' CURRENT DECISIONS.
EVEN THOUGH THEIR RACE MAY BE DISAGREEABLE AT TIMES, AS LONG AS WE PROPOSE A FAIR AND BALANCED ACCORD...

SOMEWHERE BELOW PERSPECTA.
"I BELIEVE CONFLICT CAN BE AVOIDED."
YEEAHHH
YAAAAA
AAAGGHH
YYYAAHHH
YOU GUYS HEARING THAT? I THINK WE'RE HERE.
WHEREVER THAT IS.
YOU EVER EVEN BEEN TO THIS PLACE?
WE'VE BEEN THROUGH SOME OF THE WORST AREAS ABOVE AND BELOW NEFARIO, BUT I AIN'T NEVER BEEN HERE BEFORE.
FIRST TIME FOR EVERYTHING, BUD.
FIRST TIME! FIRST TIME!

THROUGH THERE...
WHOA.
POOT
YEAH, YOU SAID IT.
YAY!
WOOO!
ALL RIGHT!
MY FELLOW NEFARIANS...
OUR TIME IS NOW!


DESERT CENTER GROCERY
SO HUNGRY!
YOU SAID IT, LITTLE CHAMP!
NO PETS ALLOWED
HMPH. LET'S GRUB!
EXCUSE ME! EXCUSE ME!
THERE ARE NO PETS ALLOWED IN THE STORE. YOU'LL NEED TO TAKE THEM BACK OUTSIDE IMMEDIATELY.
PETS? OH, YEAH RIGHT.
WELL, THEY'RE ACTUALLY MY...EMOTIONAL SUPPORT ANIMALS. I SUFFER FROM A UNIQUE PSYCHOLOGICAL CONDITION AND THEY'RE PROTECTED UNDER FEDERAL LAW TO BE WITH ME AT ALL TIMES OF NEED.
AND I NEED THEM. *HERE. NOW.* THANKS!


GEORGE LOOK... BIGGER TO YOU?
OH, YEAH. MINI-DEV SURE CAN CONSUME.
EASY, GEORGIE. THIS ISN'T AN ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT!
AARFF LURRGG
GGLUPP
SSLURP
WHAT DEVONSHIRE DID TO BRING GEORGE INTO THE WORLD IS QUITE ABNORMAL, EVEN BY NEFARIAN STANDARDS.
HE AND I SHOULD NOT EVEN BE HERE TO BEGIN WITH. WE MUST MAKE IT BACK TO PERSPECTA AND FIND OUT WHAT CAUSED THIS TO OCCUR...
BEFORE THINGS GET EVEN WORSE.
HEY!
WHERE'D YOU GO?!

GEORGE? C'MON SON. WHERE ARE YOU?
UM, GEORGE?
MISS? MISS?
REGARDLESS OF WHAT TYPE OF SUPPORT YOU CURRENTLY REQUIRE, YOUR ANIMALS CANNOT ROAM FREELY THROUGH THE STORE.
ONE OF THEM HAS FOUND THE BACK STOCK ROOM. YOU NEED TO GO GET IT THIS INSTANT!
BACK STOCK ROOM?
UH OH.
DEV! SOMETHING'S GOING ON WITH GEORGE. WE GOTTA FIND HIM. THE MANAGER SAID HE'S BACK HERE SOMEWHERE.
ONLY EMPLOYEE
HE IS SO GROUNDED!
GEORGE! WHERE ARE YOU?
OH, SH--

GLLPPP

MMUNCCH

ARRFFGG

GEORGE?! STOP!

HE'S EATING TOO MUCH. IT LOOKS LIKE HE'S...

GGLL GGHH

CCHOOMP

SSLLRP

GROWING. HE IS GROWING SO MUCH LARGER.

URRMMP

SURE IS ONE SIZABLE PROBLEM.

GGUULLP

MMMMNCHH

THAT'S A LOT OF FROZEN TURKEY.

RRAAAGGGHHHHHHH

I THINK YOU KIDS SHOULD UM, MOVE BACK NOW.

HE'S HUGE!
THEO, WHAT DO WE DO?
I DON'T KNOW. DEV?
GEORGE! GET BACK DOWN HERE RIGHT NOW YOUNG MAN!
YOU HAVE A LOT OF EXPLAINING TO--
DEVONSHIRE!

C'MON, WE HAVE TO HELP HIM!
WE CAN TRY--
THE GROUND?!
AHHHHHH!
GUYS!
LOOK OUT!
OH MY GOD...

MEANWHILE IN PERSPECTA.
I WILL NOT ALLOW OUR TWO RACES TO BE DIVIDED ANY LONGER.
WE HAVE ARRANGED A MEETING WITH THE NEFARIAN REPRESENTATIVES IN HOPES OF NEGOTIATING A BETTER FUTURE FOR US ALL.
YOUR WISDOM AND COUNSEL IN THIS TROUBLESOME TIME IS MUCH APPRECIATED, MARINA.
I WILL NOT LET ANY OF YOU DOWN.
GREETINGS. IT IS MAGNUSS, THE ELYSIAN SUPERIOR. I AM HERE TO CONFER WITH--
ANOTHER SUBTREMORAL DISPLACEMENT!
EVERYONE STAY CALM. IT SHOULD BE OVER SOO--
THAT'S YOUR SECOND MISTAKE, MY LORD.

NOTHING IS OVER. IT'S ONLY JUST BEGUN.

AND YOU THINK YOU'VE COME HERE FOR A DISCUSSION? WELL...

WE'VE COME FOR WAR!

TO BE CONTINUED IN THE PAGES OF **SHRUGGED #4!**

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"Um... I Wear Size Zero"

Digital Edition A
by - André Risso & Beth Sotelo

Digital Edition B
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PREVIOUSLY IN:

In Perspecta, following the destruction of The Transferscending Chamber, the Nefarians promptly began to rebel, spurned on by the leadership of a mysterious new figurehead flanked by an army of angry Nefs. Meanwhile, Theo and friends attempted to contain Dev's new arrival, George, but were unable to keep the little tike from gorging on food and growing to ginormous size, endangering the kids in the process.

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SANTA MONICA, CA.
SEVERAL YEARS AGO.
GO FOR IT!
SWEET MOVES, MAN!
RADICAL!
I TOTALLY GOT THIS!
YES!
WHOOOSHHH

NOOOO!
WOOOFFAH!
DAYYUMM!
THAT HURT ME, BRO!
UH, CATCH YOU GUYS LATER.
NASTY SPILL YOU TOOK THERE.
YEAH, UH, IT JUST LOOKED WORSE THAN IT WAS.
I'M GOOD.
UM, WHAT ARE YOU DOING THERE?
YOU CAN CHECK IT OUT IF YOU WANT?
YOU GO TO MAXWELL, RIGHT?
YUP. I'M SORTA NEW THERE.
HEY, THOSE ARE AWESOME. YOU'RE PRETTY GOOD.

MAYBE YOU COULD DRAW SOMETHING ON MY BOARD FOR ME SOME DAY?
AND WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO FOR ME?
UHH, WHAT WOULD YOU WANT?
WELL, SINCE WE JUST MET, HOW ABOUT SOMETHING TOTALLY CRAZY?
PROM. YOU CAN TAKE ME TO PROM.
FOR REAL? UM, OKAY. SURE THING. IF WE STILL KNOW EACH OTHER BY THEN AND MAKE IT THROUGH SCHOOL THE NEXT COUPLE OF YEARS, YOU GOT IT. PROM IT IS.
PROMISE?
YEAH, WHY NOT? PROMISE.
WHAT'S YOUR NAME ANYWAY?
KIORI.
COOL. I'M THEO.
SEE YA AROUND, THEO.
CAREFUL GETTING HOME.
I'LL BE FINE. WHAT'S THE WORST THAT COULD HAPPEN?

NOW.
AAAAHHHHHH!
WWHOOOMMPPPP
AH, DAMN.
KKRRASSH
BBBRRAGHH!
SO. GROSS.
AND HOW.

WHHAAHMMM
WHOA! GRAB A BUCKET AND MOP. YOU THREE ARE A MESS!
C'MON, WE GOT'TA HELP GEORGE!
HE'S GETTING CRUSHED!
WE HAVE TO DO SOMETHING!
IT WON'T BUDGE!
DEVONSHIRE, OVER THERE. LOOK!
PERFECT. GOOD JOB, ANGE!
WE CAN'T, UNGGHH, MOVE THIS THING.

AAGGHHH!
GEORGE! HOLD ON!
EVERYBODY LOOK OUT!
HERE I COME!
UUMPHH!
GEORGE?! ARE YOU, OKAY?
GEORGE, SPEAK TO ME!
SPEAK TO--
BBLEEERCHHH

I FEEL BETTER NOW.
HEYA, BABY CAKES.
AND... HE'S BACK TO NORMAL AGAIN.
I'M TOUCHED.
EVEN AFTER WHAT I TRIED TO DO TO YOU, YOU STILL HELPED ME.
LOOK...
...THERE ARE SOME BAD THINGS GOING ON BACK HOME.
I WAS MADE, FOR YOU TO MAKE ME, FOR ME TO STOP YOU, FROM EVER GOING BACK. YA FALLOW?
BUT...YOU ALL SAVED ME BACK THERE.
I'M SORRY. AND I WANT TO HELP YOU NOW.
WE NEED TO GET BACK TO PERSPECTA, AND I KNOW A WAY...
...BUT WE'RE GONNA NEED THE HOTTIE'S HELP!

THIS IS MADNESS!
PERSPECTA.
THERE MUST BE A CIVIL WAY OF SETTLING OUR DIFFERENCES.
WAR IS NOT THE ANSWER.
THIS IS GETTING CRAZY, MAN!
DO WE REALLY WANT TO FIGHT THE ELLIES?
DON'T THINK IT'S UP TO US, BUD. THESE NEFS MEAN BUSINESS!
MEAN! MEAN! SO MEAN!
PLEASE, ALL OF YOU. LISTEN TO REASON.
WE CAN FIND A--
NO MORE LISTENING.
MY FELLOW NEFARIANS...

...ATTACK.
RAAGGHH
YAAHHH
AAGHHH
RRAAGGHH

ROYAL GUARD, ON MY MARK.
FOR OUR PEOPLE...
...WE DEFEND THEE WITH OUR LIVES.
NOW!

SSHHFFWWAAMMMM

I APPLAUD THE EFFORT...

...BUT YOUR HALLOW REIGN...

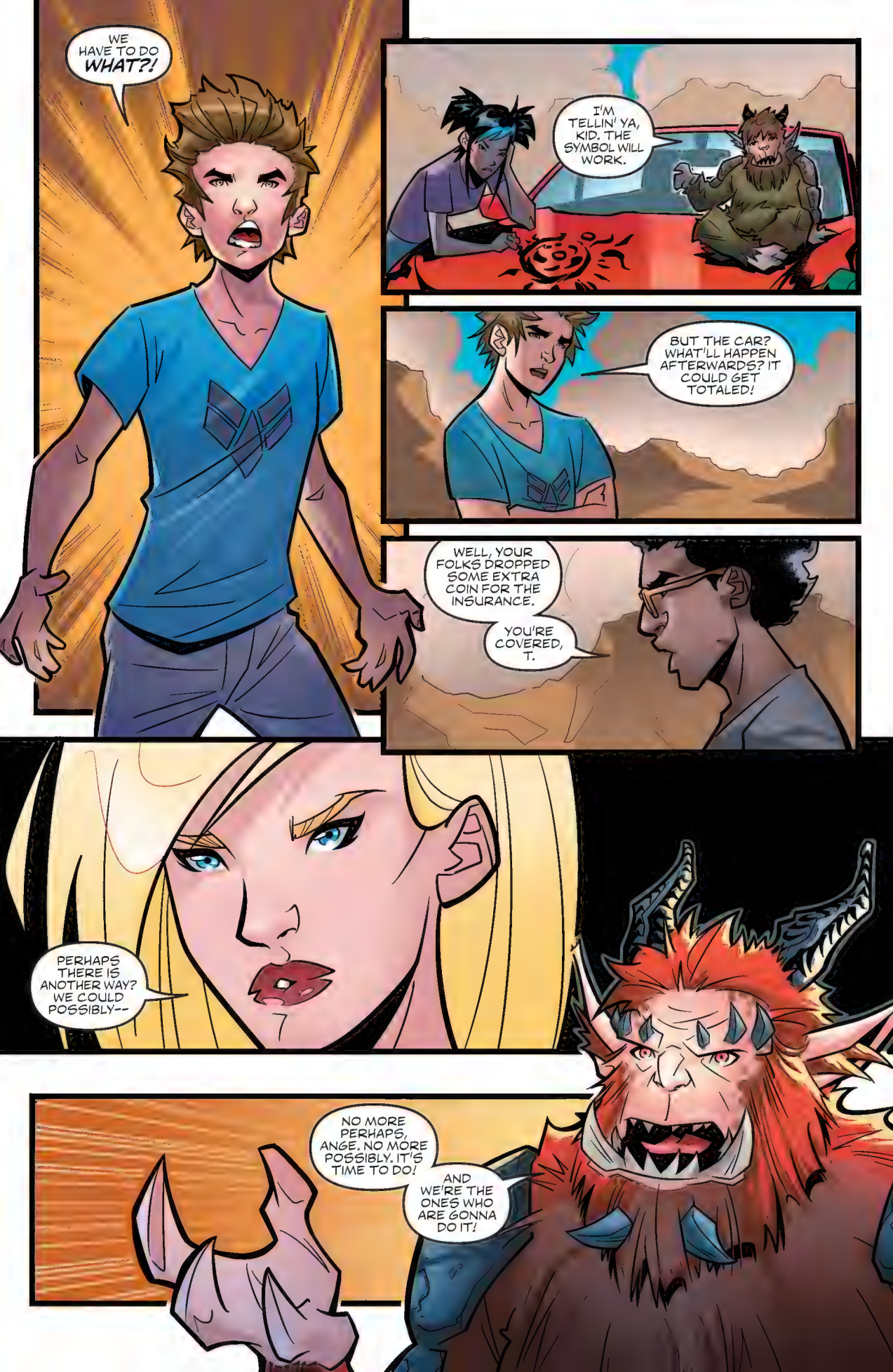
...IS OVER.

SPPLLUUKK

TIME TO GO.

WE HAVE WHAT WE CAME FOR.

WE'LL GET THE REST LATER.


WE HAVE TO DO WHAT?!
I'M TELLIN' YA, KID. THE SYMBOL WILL WORK.
BUT THE CAR? WHAT'LL HAPPEN AFTERWARDS? IT COULD GET TOTALED!
WELL, YOUR FOLKS DROPPED SOME EXTRA COIN FOR THE INSURANCE.
YOU'RE COVERED, T.
PERHAPS THERE IS ANOTHER WAY? WE COULD POSSIBLY--
NO MORE PERHAPS, ANGE. NO MORE POSSIBLY. IT'S TIME TO DO!
AND WE'RE THE ONES WHO ARE GONNA DO IT!

ALRIGHT, EVERYONE MAKE SURE YOUR SEAT BELTS ARE FASTENED!
SKRREECHH
I'VE NEVER DRIVEN THIS, UH...FAST BEFORE.
IT'S ALL GOOD, BRO.
JUST KEEP PUNCHING IT!
HERE WE GOOOOO!

WAIT A SEC...
WHERE ARE WE?
NOT SURE, KIDDO. NEVER SEEN THIS PLACE BEFORE. ESPECIALLY FROM DOWN HERE.
WHY DID WE NOT MATERIALIZE AT THE RETURN FACILITY? THIS IS CERTAINLY NOT ANYWHERE IN ELYSIA THAT I KNOW OF.
AND YOU DON'T WANT TO. TRUST ME.
C'MON, WE NEED TO--
HEYA, GEORGIE BOY...

...GOOD TA SEE YA AGAIN.
AND LOOK'IT DAT. DEV'S HERE TOO.
WHY IS HE STILL... ALIVE?
YA FAILED US, GEORGIE. YA KNOW WHAT DIS MEANS, RIGHT?
YOU'RE ALL TOAST!

HOPE YA GOT YOUR WILL FILLED OUT, KID.
YA HIT LIKE A GIRL!
STAY BACK, YA BIG JERKS!
IN DA FACE! IN DA FACE!
GIVE IT UP, MEATBALLS! YOU KNOW YOU GUYS CAN'T TAKE ME IN A FIGHT!
STAY BEHIND ME, SWEETNESS. I'LL PROTECT--
GEORGE!
WHACKK
AAAAAHHH!
YA BETTER RUN! BUNCHA HOOLIGANS!
IS EVERYONE, ALRIGHT?
THOM, WHAT IS IT?
I...I COULDN'T STOP THEM.
OH, NO.
KIORI?!

SOMEWHERE IN PERSPECTA.
THIS IS ALL YOUR DOING, YOU KNOW.
KEEP IT MOVING, GIRLIE.
GOT A SURPRISE FOR YA.
YOU AND ALL OF YOUR DELUSIONAL ELYSIAN BRETHREN.
THINKING YOU KNOW WHAT'S BEST FOR EVERYONE.
C'MON, RIGHT THROUGH THERE.

TRYING TO CONTROL THAT WHICH CANNOT BE.
NOW WE DON'T WANNA HEAR NO COMPLAINING FROM YOUS.
WE'RE NO PROFESSIONALS AROUND HERE, KAPEESH?
YOU DO NOT RULE PERSPECTA.
THE FAÇADE YOU BELIEVE IN EXISTS NO MORE.
YA KNOW, I TINK THIS JUS MIGHT WORK.
YEAH, NOT BAD...
NEFARIANS ARE NOT YOUR EQUAL.
WE ARE YOUR SUPERIORS.
AND WE HAVE PROCURED THE PERFECT LEADER.

...NOT BAD FOR OUR NEW QUEEN.
TO BE CONTINUED IN THE PAGES OF SHRUGGED #5!